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Will Gardner First Speaker In Historical Series.

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Dr. Gardner told his audience that the public knows very little about these men "who saved life or gave life" on the sea. The explanation rests in the fact that few of the heroes of shipwrecks around Nantucket are alive today, and in the past those involved did not care to discuss the incidents or were themselves more interested in salvage rights than in the human factors.

His own interest in the men who ventured against waves and weather to rescue stranded crews began on January 10, 1886, when he witnessed the wreck of the "T. B. Witherspoon", of Rockport, Maine, Capt. Alfred H. Anderson, near the head of Little Moxes Pond. The schooner, bound from Surinam to Boston with a cargo of molasses, sugar, cocoa, limes, and spices, was drawn off course in a severe storm. A fearful sea made it almost impossible to launch a lifeboat, and all but the mate and two members of the crew perished within speaking distance of hundreds who watched from shore.

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Old World Nantucket Colony Mr. Dell's Subject.

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Mr. Dell, an ordained minister and a retired faculty member of Princeton University, is extremely interested in Nantucket and its historic background. The talk which he will give on Tuesday is the continuation of his talk of last summer which emphasized the important part played by members of the Society of Friends in the history of the Island and in the maritime history of the nation.

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Col. Bunker has a great many ties with Nantucket. He is a direct descendant of William Bunker who came to Nantucket with his mother Jane Godfrey Bunker Swain and his step-father Richard Swain in the first group of settlers. His great-great-grandfather was a mixed Dutch-Bushnell was in the empire's chair. Ing they are all under 12 years. David gave a brilliant exhibition, considered team won 6-3. These small players Hedges and Green Hall, the former match", between Jake Adams and Tommy Grimason versus David

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Whaling Museum Featured In "Historic Nantucket".

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Key figure in establishing the museum was Edward F. Sanderson, summer visitor from New York. While restoring his estate at Moon End on Pleasant Street, he became interested in the island history as whaling port. He made an outstanding collection of whaling material under the direction of such experts as Mr. Frank Wood, Curator of the Dartmouth Historical Society's whaling museum at New Bedford, Robert Cushman Murphy, Assistant Curator of the American Museum

is unused and unfinished. To keep Natural History of New York, in pace with the growing and widening interest in its collection as a memorial to the past, Mr. Nelson foresees the need for additional exhibits: a ship-

In the late 1920's the brick candle shop, a cooper house at the head of the Steamboat shop, the corner of a sail loft, a rig-Wharf, erected in 1847 by Richager's loft and even a whaleboat shop. Another article, "Nantucket's Colony Hadwen and Barney, was put on in the Old World", which tells for sale. Mr. Sanderson, who had the link between Nantucket and ready made a gift of his collection Milford Haven, Wales, is written by the Nantucket Historical Association. Mr. Burnham N. Dell, a vice-president as a nucleus, purchased the building of the Association, who spoke on this and held it until the Association could subject recently at the Friends Meeting House to take it over at cost.

The exhibits were set up by Geo. A. Grant, a whaler in his own right, also contains the annual report and son of Charles Grant, one of the officers, Nantucket's most successful whaling sealing committees, and chairmen of exhibits. Thus in the summer of 1872, the diary of Keziah Coffin the Nantucket Whaling Museum v. Fanning is continued from January born with William F. Macy, an islander to June 15, 1782. descendant, presiding at the opening as President of the Association with George Grant, ex-whaleman, serving as its first custodian.

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Featured during the afternoon was a tape recording of B. Chester Pease's description of the wreck of the "Vulcan", of Rockland, Maine, Captain Gilbert, on the bar at the end of the jetties in 1891. Both rescuers and rescued were thoroughly whitewashed, Mr. Pease said, when the sea got into the cargo of lime. The recording, edited by Bob Stark, included several amusing anecdotes related by Mr. Pease in which salvage tugboat skippers were as coolly outwitted by wily Nantucketers as any in fiction.

Mrs. Nancy Adams, President of the Historical Association, served as chairman for the afternoon and introduced the speaker.

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Col. Bunker has a great many ties with Nantucket. He is a direct descendant of William Bunker who came to Nantucket with his mother Jane Godfrey Bunker Swain and his step-father Richard Swain in the first group of settlers. His great-grandfather James Madison Bunker, who lived at No. 5 Gay Street, was Judge of Probate and Insolvency and a teacher in the Nantucket schools.

Before World War II Col. Bunker was legal assistant to the Hon. John W. Davis of New York, former ambassador to London and Democratic candidate for President in 1924. During the war he served in the various headquarters in Australia, New Guinea, and the Philippines. In April, 1946, he became personal aide-de-camp to Gen. MacArthur in Tokyo and served in that capacity through the occupation of Japan and the first ten months of the Korean War. He returned to New York with the General in April, 1951, and ran his New York office for the next year and a half, leaving active duty in November, 1952.

Since then he has been practicing law and lecturing on various subjects. His home is in Wellesley, Mass., where he is president of the newly formed Wellesley Historical Society. He is a Councillor of the New England Historic Genealogical Society and a life member of the Nantucket Historical Association.

The Bunker name is well known in the history of the United States. The remarks about two members of the Nantucket branch of the family to be made by Col. Bunker, who has made a thorough study of his genealogy, will make an interesting afternoon for Association members and their guests.

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Key figure in establishing the museum was Edward F. Sanderson, summer visitor from New York. While restoring his estate at Moon End on Pleasant Street, he became interested in the island history as a whaling port. He made an outstanding collection of whaling material under the direction of such experts as Mr. Frank Wood, Curator of the Dartmouth Historical Society's whaling museum at New Bedford, Robert Cushman Murphy, Assistant Curator of the American Museum of Natural History of New York, and Mr. Clifford Ashley, New Bedford artist and author of the book "The Yankee Whaler".

In the late 1920's the brick candle house at the head of the Steamboat Wharf, erected in 1847 by Richard Mitchell and Sons and later operated by Hadwen and Barney, was put up for sale. Mr. Sanderson, who had already made a gift of his collection to the Nantucket Historical Association, purchased the building and held it until the Association could raise funds to take it over at cost.

The exhibits were set up by George A. Grant, a whaler in his own right, and son of Charles Grant, one of Nantucket's most successful whaling captains. Thus in the summer of 1928, the diary of Keziah Coffin born with William F. Macy, an islander, to June 15, 1782, was continued from January 1, 1782, as President of the Association with George Grant, ex-whaleman, serving as its first custodian.

In addition to a summary of the Nantucket whaling industry and of the establishment of the Museum, Mr. Nelson's article contains excellent descriptions of the present collection in the form of a tour of the counting room, the scrimshaw room, the portrait room, the South Seas room, Sanderson Hall, and the library. Illustrations include photographs taken by William Haddon and a lithograph by Ruth Haviland Sutton.

Public interest in the museum is evidenced by the fact that nearly a quarter of a million adults and countless children have visited it in the past 25 years and by the expansion of its collection of whaling memorabilia through gifts and bequests.

And what of the future? Extensive maintenance repairs and redecoration will soon be needed. Heating and dehumidification systems are essential to preserve exhibits during the long cold and damp winter season. Almost the entire first floor of the museum

is unused and unfinished. To keep pace with the growing and widening interest in its collection as a memorial to the past, Mr. Nelson foresees the need for additional exhibits: a shipsmith or whale craft shop, a carpenter's shop, the corner of a sail loft, a rigger's loft and even a whaleboat shop.

Another article, "Nantucket's Colony in the Old World", which tells of the link between Nantucket and Milford Haven, Wales, is written by Mr. Burnham N. Dell, a vice-president of the Association, who spoke on this subject recently at the Friends Meeting House.

The July issue of "Historic Nantucket", which contains the annual report of Association officers, stands as a nucleus, purchased the building and held it until the Association could raise funds to take it over at cost.

Historical Association Lecture.

"The whalers of Nantucket reversed the course of history by planting a colony of the New World in the Old". Mr. Burnham N. Dell, retired minister and former professor at Princeton University, told his audience at the Friends Meeting House on Tuesday afternoon. His talk was the second in a series about Old-Time Nantucket being sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association.

On August 1, 1802, Mr. Dell said, the first citizens of the town of Milford Haven, Wales, assembled at a famous dinner to honor Lord Nelson, hero of the Battle of the Nile which he had fought four years earlier. Outstanding among the dinner companions was a diverse assortment, indeed,—Sir William Hamilton and his Lady, the notorious Emma Hart; nephew Charles Greville; Jean-Louis Barrelier, engineer and town architect; and Samuel Starbuck and Timothy Folger, Nantucket whalers. Presence of these two sober Quakers who could hardly have approved of the forward actions of Lady Hamilton at a public affair, can be explained by going back a dozen years earlier.

The town of Milford Haven was part of an estate which Sir William Hamilton had inherited from his first wife, Catherine Barlow. His nephew, Charles Greville, who was agent for the estate and anxious to put it on a paying basis, made plans to use the excellent harbor by establishing a whaling port. Although, less than ten years before, William Rotch had tried unsuccessfully to gain a foothold in England, through the influence of Greville a representative of the office of the Secretary of State paid a visit to the settlement of Nantucketers at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Having arranged to receive full payment

for their Dartmouth property and the cost of transfer, in 1792 fifteen families led by Samuel Starbuck and Timothy Folger migrated to England.

The Nantucketers of Milford Haven and of Dartmouth, said Mr. Dell, played important roles in the Anglo-American struggle for whaling supremacy. But island ties proved the strongest, and, while the Nantucket fleet recovered from the effects of the War of 1812 and continued to grow through the efforts of the enterprising men who could not be lured to settle elsewhere, the whaling port of Milford Haven suffered due to the removal of government support.

Mr. Dell, who visited Milford Haven this spring, found many reminders of the island in the Nantucket Georgian architecture, on gravestones recording the deaths of Starbuck and Folgers, and on streets named "Starbuck Road" and "Nantucket Avenue". The community has passed through successive periods of prosperity, depression and recovery.

Unlike Nantucket Milford Haven still relies on the sea for its main source of livelihood. A trawler fish market supplies the cities of the United Kingdom with a thousand tons of fish a week. Along the waterfront are drydocks, soon to be enlarged to handle the repair of the largest oil tankers now afloat, machine shops, warehouses, shipways, and cranes.

Despite these changes Mr. Dell found that the contribution of the Nantucket whalers and their descendants to the early history of the town has never been forgotten. Visitors from the island will find a hospitable welcome.

Chairman for the afternoon was Mrs. Rozelle Coleman Jones, who recently found in her attic the diary of Abiel Coleman Folger, wife of Timothy Folger, sea captain, ship owner,

Nantucket Historical Association

Extends a cordial invitation to members and guests
to attend the

61st Annual Meeting of the Association
to be held at

BENNETT HALL, CENTRE STREET

TUESDAY, JULY 19th at 3 p.m.

COLONEL LAURENCE ELIOT BUNKER

Lawyer, Lecturer, Historian,
and former Aide to General Douglas MacArthur
will speak on

"RANSOMS and REWARDS"

Some dramatic incidents
in the fortunes of two Nantucket Captains.

and merchant. Timothy, a cousin of Benjamin Franklin, was the first to chart the Gulf Stream. The discovery of Abiel's diary, which reveals much about daily life in Milford between 1806 and 1811, has revived local interest in this sister community.

The third talk in the series will be given on Tuesday, July 26, when Mr. Paul Whitten discusses the sheep industry on Nantucket and describes the popular shearing festivals.

Next Historical Association Talk "Nantucket's Sheep Festivals".

"Nantucket's Sheep Festivals" will be the subject of a talk by Mr. Paul Whitten at the Friends Meeting House, Fair Street, on Tuesday afternoon, July 26, at 3 p.m. This is the third in the summer series about Old-Time Nantucket being sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association. These talks are open to the public, and there is no admission charge.

The sheep industry on the island no longer occupies importance, but its effects are present in the large tracts of undivided land still shared by descendants of the early Nantucketers who agreed to hold land "in common". Mr. Whitten will talk about the development and the decline of this industry which gave rise to the outstanding social function of yesteryear — the spring shearing festival.

Mr. Whitten, who is Principal of the Bliss Elementary School at Attleboro, Mass., is a Nantucketer by adoption. He first came to the island in 1944 as Principal at the Cyrus Peirce, and held that position for a number of years before accepting a similar one on the mainland. He now comes to Nantucket each summer and pursues his hobby of doing research in island history.

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ADMISSION FREE

Col. Laurence E. Bunker Speaker At 61st Annual Meeting.

The sixty-first annual meeting of the Nantucket Historical Association was held Tuesday afternoon, July 19, at Bennett Hall. Guest speaker was Col. Laurence E. Bunker, lecturer, lawyer, historian, and former aide to General Douglas MacArthur.

The meeting was called to order at three o'clock by the president, Mrs. Nancy S. Adams, who welcomed everyone graciously. Mrs. Adams announced the business meeting would be brief and called upon the secretary, Mr. George W. Jones, who read the report of the last annual meeting.

As the treasurer's report and others are printed in the current issue of "Historic Nantucket", it was voted to dispense with reading them.

In presenting her second report as president of the Association, Mrs. Adams touched briefly on the work done by the Association in answering correspondence concerning genealogy. She expressed her appreciation to Mr. W. Ripley Nelson, editor of "Historic Nantucket" whose serious illness during the winter failed to deter him from his editorial duties or from preparing weekly publicity releases. She also thanked the editors of the island newspapers for their courteous assistance and generosity in giving space for the publicity. This year the Association issued two publications — "Folk Art of the American Whaler" and "Quakerism on Nantucket".

Mrs. Adams spoke briefly of representing the Association at several meetings of the Bay State Historical League in which she serves as Director-at-Large and of speaking this spring at the newly formed Historical Society in Harwich, Mass. She and Mr. Jones attended committee hearings in Boston prior to the passing of State legislation establishing the Main Street area and land in Sconset as historic districts.

Mrs. Adams said the finances of the organization were in capable hands, the membership numbers 1,017, and many new accessions have been received.

Mrs. Adams said the series of informal talks which were held last summer on Tuesday afternoons at the Friends Meeting House, Fair Street, are being continued this summer. In February another Winter Gam was enjoyed by the year-round residents who gathered to reminisce.

This year, the president said, the Association has renewed its custom of giving prizes to high school students. Winners were William Hoadley for his essay on "Nantucket Newspapers" and Kenneth Duce of the Vocational School for his summary of Nantucket history.

Mrs. Adams reminded members of the 25th anniversary of the Whaling Museum and called it a memorial to former president William F. Macy and his efforts in its establishment and to her father, George A. Grant, first custodian.

The present custodian, she said, is "Archie" Cartwright, replacing Wallace Long who served a number of years and is now on leave of absence. Mrs. Adams said, "We miss Wallace and we trust that courage and faith will give him restored health."

The president expressed her appreciation to the staff of custodians and hostesses who help to maintain cordial relations with the many visitors and to the chairmen of exhibits for their devoted efforts.

In bringing her report to a close, Mrs. Adams expressed the need of the Association for a younger generation of workers who will have an appreciation of the debt owed to its founders and who will carry on its work. She said, "We sincerely hope so, for the future grows out of the past. The past was rich and inspiring and gives us the right to believe the future will be the same."

The report of the nominating committee was presented by Mrs. George W. Jones, and it was voted that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the election of the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. Adams; vice-presidents, Howard U. Chase, Everett U. Crosby, Burnham N. Dell, Grace Brown Gardner, George W. Jones, and W. Ripley Nelson; secretary, George W. Jones; treasurer, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Worth; auditor, Ormonde F. Ingall; councillor (until 1958) Stokely W. Morgan, (until 1959) Albert F. Egan, Jr., and Mrs. Cyril C. Ross.

Mrs. Adams introduced Mr. Gordon Harriss who is visiting Nantucket from Milford Haven, Wales. Local interest in this community from which Nantucketers once carried on whaling ventures in the early 19th century, has been revived through the discovery of the diary of Abiel Coleman Folger, wife of Timothy, and by a visit made recently by Mr. and Mrs. Dell while traveling in the United Kingdom. Mr. Harriss expressed his interest in the link between Milford and Nantucket and his pleasure in visiting the island.

In introducing Col. Laurence E. Bunker, the speaker of the afternoon, Mrs. Adams spoke of his many ties with Nantucket through the Bunker family.

Colonel Bunker termed his talk of his Nantucket cousins on the subject of "Ransom and Rewards" a one-sided gam about two Nantucket whaling captains in the Bunker family, Paul West and Ebor Bunker.

He named among the recent famous Bunkers; Ellsworth Bunker, former ambassador to Argentina and Italy and now head of the American Red Cross; Arthur Bunker, president of the Climax Molybdenum; Dennis Miller Bunker, American artist, and Gen. Matthew Bunker Ridgeway.

The speaker traced the descent of Capt. Paul West through five generations from Elizabeth Bunker, who came to Nantucket in the first group of settlers in 1659 with her mother Jane Godfrey Bunker Swain and her step-father Richard Swain. Paul West advanced from cabin boy at fifteen to captain in seven years with more than the usual measure of success.

Col. Bunker told of West's experience as mate of the ship Cyrus, one of the Rotch vessels commanded by Capt. Archaeus Mammon. Captured by the British and then the French, he was released through the efforts of Capt. William Moers, then the Rotch representative at Dunkirk, in

Continued on Last Page

Col. Laurence E. Bunker Speaker

At 61st Annual Meeting

Continued from Page One
time to be given command of the Cyrus then under new ownership in London.

The fortune which enabled Paul West to retire at 34 was gained through successful whaling voyages despite the family tradition that much of his wealth was obtained by having ransomed an important personage aboard a French ship which he is believed to have captured.

In 1815, Col. Bunker said, Paul West came to Nantucket with his wife Phebe, daughter of Benjamin Hussey of Dunkirk, and purchased the Uriah Swain House, 5 Liberty Street, where he lived and took an active part in community affairs for the next 50 years.

Among the collection of the Historical Museum on Fair Street, the speaker said, is a reproduction, made by Moses Joy of the famous cherry stone, hollowed out to contain a number of tiny silver spoons. The original was Paul West's gift to his bride in London in 1812.

Col. Bunker said that during his World War II assignment in Australia he became curious about the group of Bunker Islands off the east coast, and about Bunker Hill in Sydney. In tracing the origin of their name, he learned about Captain Ebor Bunker of Nantucket, who became the first whaler in New Zealand waters and made a number of successful voyages. Capt. Bunker brought the first pair of black swans to England as a gift to George III. He later received lands in Tasmania and at Sydney by royal grant.

Col. Bunker then told briefly of some personal experiences while stationed in Australia, including a dinner party attended by a young lieutenant in the Royal Navy who is now Prince Philip of England.

The meeting closed with the audience giving the speaker a rising vote of thanks.

Historical Association Council Organizes 1955-56 Council.

The annual organization of the Council of the Nantucket Historical Association was held Friday, July 22, at the Friends Meeting House. Mrs. Nancy S. Adams, President, was elected Chairman of the Council for the second year.

Chairmen of the various buildings were re-appointed as follows: Friends Meeting House and Historical Museum, Mrs. Walton H. Adams; Oldest House, Mrs. Lewis S. Edgarton; Old Mill, Mr. Earl S. Ray; Old Jail, Mr. James A. Norcross; Whaling Museum, Mr. W. Ripley Nelson; 1800 House, Mrs. William Voorneveld.

Mr. Burnham N. Dell was re-appointed chairman for the Old North Cemetery and Messrs. John Grout and Albert Egan, Jr., for the Old Sconset Pump, for which properties the Association was designated some years ago by vote of town meeting as the agency to keep them in order under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen.

Messrs. Earl S. Ray, Howard U. Chase and W. Ripley Nelson were re-appointed to serve as the Finance Committee. The President, Mrs. Nancy S. Adams, was named to carry on the work of the Membership Committee.

Advertising and publicity will be handled by Mr. Stokely W. Morgan. Mr. W. Ripley Nelson was re-appointed Editor of "Historic Nantucket". Mr. Burnham N. Dell will continue to serve as Associate Editor.

Post Office Department Refuses Special Stamp

In a letter to George Jones, chairman of the 300th Birthday Steering Committee, the United States Post Office Department has refused to issue a commemorative stamp to celebrate Nantucket's tercentenary. Mr. Jones wrote Arthur Summerfield, Postmaster General, trying to get Mr. Summerfield to reconsider the decision. His letter to the Postmaster General read as follows:

The Hon. Arthur E. Summerfield
Postmaster General
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Summerfield:

In anticipation of the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the settlement of the Island of Nantucket, we have for two years been endeavoring to have a commemorative stamp struck off by the Post Office Department.

After corresponding with our Senator in 1957, the Committee having the celebration in charge was advised to wait until this fall to call this matter to your attention. This was done both by the Steering Committee and by our representatives in Congress.

I have recently received word from these officials that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee did not recommend the inclusion of such a stamp.

It is quite understandable that the requests for such stamps are many and the difficulties accruing from a selection by your committee are great. However, I feel that our case has not properly been presented and in the hope that further consideration will be given to our request I enclose pertinent information relative to the important contributions which have been made by the people of this Island over a long period of our country's history.

It would seem that the patriotic actions of these people who have called this place their home and the personal sacrifices made by them are due for considerable recognition, and by comparison should weigh favorably against claims of others desirous of a commemorative stamp.

I enclose a list, which may not be complete, of those stamps issued in 1958, many of which neither date back as far into the history of this country or have been of as much importance to its welfare as has this Island.

I believe that if a fair and honest survey is made of the facts which I am here presenting, the conclusions reached will warrant the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee's approval of a commemorative stamp issue for this Island's 300th Anniversary Celebration for 1959.

This correspondence has of necessity been long and I thank you for your fair consideration of the contents.

Very sincerely yours,
George W. Jones, Chairman
300th Birthday Committee

In a supplement to this letter, Mr. Jones included a list of 25 reasons why he considered Nantucket's historical events merited a commemorative stamp.

1. Benjamin Franklin's mother was born on Nantucket August 15, 1667, and her childhood was spent here.

2. The three ships, "Dartmouth," "Eleanor," and "Beaver," were the three involved in the Boston Tea party and were whale ships owned on this island.

3. Of the 150 vessels engaged in whaling in 1774, 134 were captured or destroyed by the British during the Revolutionary War and many of their crewmen lost their lives.

4. In 1783 the Nantucket ship "Bedford," under Captain William Mooers, was the first vessel to hoist the American flag in a British port (London). This event occurred February 3, 1783.

5. In 1791, the Nantucket ship "Beaver," under Captain Paul Worth was the first American whaler to round Cape Horn to fish for whales in the Pacific. Six other whaling vessels from this port followed her in the same year.

6. In the volumes published by the Commonwealth, on "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War," are listed 86 Nantucket men.

7. In the "Third Report National Society D. A. R." 1898-1900, pp. 316-345 is recorded the names of 104 Nantucket men who loaned money to the Colonies' cause during the Revolutionary War.

8. Twenty-one (21) Nantucket men served with John Paul Jones aboard his ships "Bonne Homme Richard" and "Ranger."

9. Ship "Washington" of Nantucket was the first ship to display an American flag in a Spanish port. This happened on March 21, 1791.

10. January 3, 1793, Lucretia Mott was born on Nantucket and spent her early childhood here. (Refer to book "Lucretia Mott" by Otelia Cromwell, published 1958.)

11. 1809-10 Nantucket had nine State Representatives, one State Senator and one United States Congressman.

12. In the War of 1812, 11 Nantucket whale ships were captured by the British and the crews made prisoners of war.

13. 1814-15. The winter of these years, due to British blockade, food was so scarce and high in price that a "soup-house" was established to dispense soup free of charge to the poor.

14. Maria Mitchell, internationally-known astronomer was born on Nantucket, August 1, 1818, and lived here until entering college.

15. The steamship "Savannah" first steam vessel to cross the Atlantic and partly owner by Captain Elkins of Nantucket was first under the command of Captain Robert Inot of this Island.

16. Nantucket was the leading whaling port in this country and probably in the world in 1823.

17. In 1830, Nantucket was the third commercial town in Massachusetts.

18. 1861-65 Nantucket sent 213 men into the Union Army and 126 into the U. S. Navy, the total being 56 more than her quota. This from a total population of approximately 4,500 men, women, and children.

19. In 1882, Honorable Charles J. Folger, a native of Nantucket, was appointed Secretary of the United States Treasury.

(Continued on Page Six).

Post Office Department Refuses Special Stamp

(Continued from Page One)

20. In 1901, Nantucket was considered important enough for a visit by the North Atlantic Squadron of the United States Navy under Admiral Higginson. The visit lasted several weeks.

21. In 1908, Rear Admiral Seth Mitchell Ackley, a native son of Nantucket, who was born here in 1845, was brought back to the Island for interment.

22. In 1909, the steamer "Republic" was sunk off Nantucket in a collision with steamer "Florida" on January 23. This was the first time that wireless telegraphy was actually used in saving lives at sea. Distress calls and messages were transmitted through the wireless station on Nantucket Island.

23. During the First World War, Nantucket, with a population of approximately 3,000 subscribed a total of \$1,665,000 in the five Liberty Loan drives, making Nantucket the banner town in the United States, with a per capita subscription of \$555.

24. A total of 192 men of this town were "in service" in World War I, and four gave their lives.

25. Nantucket Airport was taken over by the Navy in World War II and used throughout the war as a bomb training base — 1941-46.

During World War II over 470 men and women went from here to serve in the armed services and 11 Nantucket men gave their lives.

The Korean War also saw many Nantucketers in the service of their country, the exact number of which I cannot now quote.

Mr. Jones received a letter from L. Rohe Walter, Special Assistant to the Postmaster General, in answer to his letter.

Mr. George W. Jones
President
Nantucket Historical Association
Nantucket, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Jones:

The Postmaster General has asked me to reply to your letter of November 21 endorsing the request that a stamp be issued to commemorate the 300th anniversary of Nantucket Island in 1959.

This proposal was carefully reviewed by our Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee but, unfortunately, the members did not recommend inclusion of a stamp for this occasion in the 1959 commemorative stamp program.

We are now in a period when a great many localities are reaching significant anniversaries and all of them, because of their early history, have claims to distinction.

The Committee felt that it would be very difficult to select any one city or community for postal recognition, and to do so would inevitably produce innumerable similar requests which would be impossible to approve and hard to decline.

I am sure you can appreciate that these decisions are difficult ones to make and since we can assure only a limited number of commemorative stamps in any one year, we are always faced with the necessity of omitting many worthy subjects.

Your interest in our philatelic program is appreciated and I am sorry that this reply cannot be favorable.

Cordially yours,

L. Rohe Walter

**Romance of Nantucket Houses
To Be Discussed by Mrs. Lyon.**

"The Romance of Old Nantucket Houses" will be the subject of a talk by Mrs. Elias J. Lyon on Tuesday, August 2, at 3:00 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House on Fair Street. This is the fourth in the series on Old-Time Nantucket being sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association.

Nantucket is unique in that its architecture, which has often been called "95% perfect", remains very much as it was in the golden age of whaling. In the town there are more than four hundred closely grouped houses more than a century old, many of them of extraordinary dignity and unusual charm. Three distinct periods are represented: the early Colonial, the late Colonial or early Federal, and the Classic. The Historical Association maintains two representative houses which are open to the public during the summer months. The Jethro Coffin house, a lean-to type built on Sunset Hill, is the outstanding example of the earliest period.

The 1800 House, located near the Mill and reached by Pleasant Street, represents the middle period. Most of the private homes on Main Street, built during the latter period, are of Georgian architecture. In the transition from the fundamental coziness of the early houses to the stately dignity of the later ones can be traced the increasing prosperity brought to Nantucket by the whaling industry and the changes which must have taken place in the lives of its inhabitants.

When Mrs. Lyon came to Nantucket twenty years ago, she brought only an overnight bag. However, she and her husband fell in love with the tranquil houses on quiet streets and returned to establish permanent residence. They purchased a lovely old Nantucket home at 16 Pleasant Street which they restored and furnished. Since then Mrs. Lyon has become increasingly interested in maintaining Nantucket's historic atmosphere through its architecture. She is acquainted with a great many homes on the island, and anyone interested in old Nantucket houses and the people who lived in them will find Tuesday's talk a real treat.

Nantucket Historical Association

is conducting a series of

INFORMAL TALKS

this summer at the

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Fair Street

The fourth talk will be held

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Mrs. Elias J. Lyon

Subject: The Romance of Old Nantucket Houses

A cordial invitation to attend the talks, open to members and the public, is extended by the Council.

ADMISSION FREE

Nantucket Historical Association

is conducting a series of

INFORMAL TALKS

this summer at the

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Fair Street

The fifth talk will be held

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Mr. Louis S. Davidson

Subject: Nantucket and Photography

A cordial invitation to attend the talks, open to members and the public, is extended by the Council.

ADMISSION FREE

Old Houses and Romantic Past Subject of Talk by Mrs. Lyon.

Old Nantucket houses represent a romantic past and must be preserved, Mrs. Elias J. Lyon, former social worker and teacher, told her audience at the Friends Meeting House on August 2. The speaker talked about her home and about a number of old houses with which she has become acquainted through real estate dealings since coming to the island 20 years ago. Her talk was the fourth in a series sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association on Tuesday afternoons.

Nantucket houses are not pretentious, but have a quality of dignity, solidity, and ruggedness which grew out of a pride of workmanship not found in the modern house, the speaker said.

Mrs. Lyon expressed her fears that the younger generation, living in an age when moral and spiritual values often seem out of date, will fail to preserve these relics of an age when Nantucket was a center of culture. She also pointed out that an old house, restored and in good condition, represented greater tax income to the town.

Only four houses on the island have never been sold and remain the property of descendants of the original builders—the house now occupied by Miss Grace Brown Gardner on Milk Street, Mrs. Ditmars' house on Main Street, the "Middle Brick", and the Caldwell house on lower Pleasant Mrs. Lyon enumerated.

The speaker said she and Mr. Lyon have restored four houses on Nantucket. In her pre-Revolutionary house at 16 Pleasant Street, once owned by a Peter Coffin, she discovered near the central chimney a small closet to the attic which was once used to raise dough. She regrets that the original walls of old shell plaster were in poor condition and had to be replaced by modern walls. She advised those present that, despite its blistered appearance, such plaster is a real find, deserving preservation and worthy of display.

She gave several examples of the effect of present economic conditions on real estate values since the turn of the century. A former owner of 16 Pleasant Street paid \$6.25 in taxes. She now has a standing offer of more than \$20,000 for the house in its present state of restoration.

Mr. Lyon restored the building at the head of Old North Wharf, a former boat shop owned by John Cartwright, which now serves as their office and summer home, the speaker said.

In restoring the Little Bookshop at 2 Quince Street, once owned by a Captain Myrick, a well was discovered under the doorstep. Mrs. Lyon said that most recently they have worked on 32 Pine Street.

Each house has its romance—some fascinating architectural feature or an owner of local historical interest, the speaker said. She then proceeded to give the highlights of a number of old houses.

One Pleasant Street, built in 1837 by William Macy for William Crosby, housed the first Chickering piano on the island and is mentioned in the book "Through the Hawse-Hole" by Florence Bennett Anderson.

Six Pleasant Street was more recently owned by author William O. Stevens.

Number 8 Pleasant Street was the home of Walter Folger, who designed an intricate astronomical clock now on display at the Historical Museum, Fair Street.

Fifteen Pleasant Street, which has its original shell walls, was named in the will of Obed Macy to his sons, Thomas, William, and Peter, along with one-eighth share of Old North Wharf and 307 and seven-two hundredths shares of Straight Wharf. The estate of "Moors End", 19 Pleasant Street, built by Jared Coffin, once sold for \$2,350.

The present home of William Coffin on Lily Street appears with a mill in an old Nantucket picture. Thirty-one Lily Street, the home of Jared Jerome, was moved from Fair Street in 1832 and another house was added to it. The house on Gull Island, built by Charles Gardner in 1750, was the site of a fort during the French and Indian War. Elizabeth Hollister Frost establishes a connection between this house and the Elihu Coleman house, 1720, on Madaket Road, in her book "This Side of Land". The property was an island at the time when the Lily Pond, bounded by West Chester, North Liberty, Lily, and Centre Streets, connected with the harbor, and contained sufficient water for the operation of a grist mill and a fulling mill. The pond was drained accidentally by a little girl digging with a clamshell one evening. The damage was not discovered till the next day, and the dam was never rebuilt, the speaker related.

The Roosevelt House on West Chester Street once belonged to Henry Snow, captain of the "Island City".

The David Cartwright house on Prospect Street, a perfect example of New England architecture, was put through the Land Court only after the descendants of the 10 Cartwright heirs had been traced all over the United States. Mrs. Lyon told of the disrepute with which Nantucket deeds, although usually clear, are held by "off-island lawyers" and stated that a Land Court title simplified transfer of ownership.

She said, "Teachmore" on Quaker Lane was once a Penny School. The Ernst House, Quartermile Hill, formerly owned by Gardners and Snows, was moved from Main Street. A gambrel roof is a feature of the Yates house on Pine Street, built by Jethro Gardner. The timbers in the corners of the rooms at the Fosbinder house, 21 Mill Street, are an example of ship's carpentry. Mrs. Cushman celebrated her 102nd birthday in her home on Prospect Street. The Carley House on Bloom Street, once the home of "Charlie the Oysterman", a Starbuck, has a beehive Dutch oven. 127 Main Street, built by Folgers, was the home of Albert Bunker, who kept a store at the Monument. Five Fair Street, now owned by Dr. H. Brooks Walker, lost its widow's walk in a recent hurricane. A former owner, Capt. Chase, lost his daughter to a "travelling musician", one of the famous Hutchinsons.

On close acquaintance with a Nantucket house, Mrs. Lyon told her audience, you will find yourself trying to recreate the lives of the people who lived in it. Each house has a story to tell.

Will Gardner, author of "Three Bricks and Three Brothers" and "The Clock that Talks", chairman for the afternoon, spoke briefly of current interest in Nantucket houses. Everett U. Crosby has published the book "95% Perfect", about island architecture. Miss Grace Brown Gardner is collecting pictures and clippings in a scrapbook of Nantucket houses and their occupants. Dr. Gardner and Mr. Crosby are making a file of the oldest houses on Nantucket, relying largely

on summer news items appearing when houses have been open to the public as part of the annual Nantucket Cottage Hospital Drive.

Before introducing the speaker, Dr. Gardner gave a brief history of his own home at 33 Orange Street. Built in 1760 by a Wyer for his Boston bride, it was bequeathed to their son, Christopher, a whaling master. Other owners were Seth Swift, first Unitarian minister, Peter Macy, brother of Obed the historian, and George Tracy who died of yellow fever in the Civil War and willed the house to his mother.

"Nantucket and Photography", Subject of Davidson Talk.

Mr. Louis S. Davidson will talk about "Nantucket and Photography" at the Friends' Meeting House on Tuesday afternoon, August 9, at 3 p.m. This will be the fifth talk in a series being sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association during July and August.

Mr. Davidson, now president of the Camera Club of New York, is an amateur photographer who achieves outstanding professional results. His work has been displayed in numerous places in the United States and Europe. At present a collection of 50 pictures is on tour throughout the country under the auspices of the Photographic Society of America. He has appeared on television in New York on the "Mike and Buff's" show, CBS, and on the Warren Hall program.

A retired jeweler, Mr. Davidson first came to Nantucket thirty years ago and has returned regularly. He now makes his home on North Liberty St. in what is known as the "Uncle Issac Dunham" house.

He finds Nantucket a fertile field for his hobby and is at present building up a file of photographs as a record of Nantucket as it appears today for the Nantucket Foundation, Inc., to be used at the Kenneth Taylor Galleries

"Nantucket and Photography"

Talk by Louis Davidson.

To capture the spirit of Nantucket in a photograph, you must get to know it, Mr. Louis S. Davidson, president of the Camera Club of New York, told his audience on Tuesday afternoon at the Friends Meeting House. His talk on "Nantucket and Photography" was the fifth in the series being sponsored this summer by the Nantucket Historical Association.

Mr. Davidson said that modern photography is a far cry from the darkened tents and the sensitized plates which required instantaneous developing that complicated the lives of the earliest photographers. Today by following the printed directions accompanying a box camera it is possible for anyone to take good pictures.

A sharp negative is like "money in the bank and can be drawn on regularly," the speaker said. To achieve this one need remember only two things: first, determine the focus in terms of your distance from the subject, and then don't move the camera.

For developing prints Mr. Davidson recommended the services of a professional photo finisher except when a picture has been taken under special conditions.

He said that getting a "record shot" of a scene "the way you saw it" was fun; but to get artistic results it was necessary to study the locale to learn the best lighting conditions — the proper season of the year and the correct time of day. For example, he said, Old North Wharf is best photographed in the early morning or late evening in midsummer. Late afternoon sun provides more shadow and greater depth.

Photography is an effective medium of texture and detail, the speaker stated. A picture with architectural detail is difficult to obtain in Nantucket where streets are narrow, houses are crowded, and distances are altogether too short.

Mr. Davidson then showed a few carefully selected photographs which illustrated the basic techniques he emphasized — the Hidden Forest, "Castles" a beach scene, Great Point light, a Nantucket doorway, and several portrait studies which included Austin Strong, "Niki" Carpenko, Jay Gibbs, Weston Esau, and "Charlie" Chase.

In concluding the speaker made the following suggestions: Take a picture at the moment it appeals to you, don't wait; it may change and you will lose the effect you wanted to preserve. Don't show too many things in one picture. If someone agrees to pose for you, take the picture as quickly as possible; and be sure to send them a print. With experience and by learning from others a photographer learns care and good taste. The spirit of Nantucket is to be found in the clear atmosphere and in clean, sharp white lines, Mr. Davidson said.

In the question period which followed Mr. Davidson touched briefly on the techniques of developing color and sepia prints. He also demonstrated methods of mounting pictures.

Chairman for the afternoon was Mr. Everett U. Crosby.

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Whalemen's Adventures Recalled

By Edouard A. Stackpole.

The adventures of the Nantucket whalemen are an important part of Nantucket's heritage, Edouard A. Stackpole, Curator of Mystic Seaport and the Marine Museum at Mystic, Conn., told his audience at the Friends Meeting House on Tuesday afternoon. This talk was the sixth in a series about Old Time Nantucket being sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association this summer.

Mr. Stackpole said his interest in the Nantucket whalemen began during his boyhood on Mill Hill in a house once owned by a whaleman. He recalled the rich baritone voice of Joe Lewis, Colored whaleman, singing the chantey, "Blow Ye Winds in the Morning", and wished that more were known about the music of the whaleman. Looking down to the harbor from Mill Hill in those days, he found symbolism in the fact that all the land seemed to slope toward it. This enterprise of the sea brought wealth to Nantucketers. The town was built by whale oil.

The geographical location of Nantucket at the hub of the maritime universe, the Quaker religion, and the self-reliant hardiness of the people formed an unbeatable trio. Nantucket whalemen tracked the world, charted its waters and studied its winds and ocean currents long before oceanography gained importance as a science, the historian stated. Whaling was a community enterprise—practical socialism in its highest sense.

The adventures of a single whaling captain would supply more than enough material for an afternoon's talk, Mr. Stackpole said. He could only hope to highlight a few. He spoke briefly of Capt. Charles Grant, successful whaleman, Capt. Alexander Chase whose daughter married one of the Hutchinson singers, and Capt. Brock who took his daughter around Cape Horn. Obed Starbuck, who built a home on Fair Street, now the Ship's Inn, sailed from Nantucket as a young man on the ship "Hero". During this voyage he led a successful attack to recapture the ship from a Spanish pirate and was rewarded by being made master on her next voyage.

The former association president spoke of two Nantucket Pinkhams. Andrew, who had lost two vessels in the Napoleonic wars, foresaw the War of 1812 and moved to Ohio where he later named the town of Bantam for a favorite port. Lieut. Alexander Pinkham, educated in the forecastle of a whaler, enlisted in the Navy at 21. While on a walking tour of Scotland, he visited the home of John Paul Jones. Disturbed by its run-down condition, he paid to have the roof repaired and arranged to have it occupied by the wife of a local fisherman. When he returned to this country a niece of Jones presented him with a medallion of the Naval hero painted in Paris before his death. The medallion is now on display at the Naval Academy at Annapolis.

George Pollard, captain of the whaleship "Essex", and Owen Chase, mate, were an ill-fated pair. Their ship having been struck and sunk by a whale, the two men survived 90 days in whaleboats on the open sea by subsisting on human flesh. This terrible event formed part of the factual background which led to the writing of "Moby Dick", by Herman Melville, who later came to Nantucket and met George Pollard, thought to be the pattern for Captain Ahab.

Mr. Stackpole said he liked to visualize the meeting of these two men at night when Melville could scan the haggard face of Pollard, town watchman, illuminated by his lamp. After a successful career as whaling master, Owen Chase also retired on Nantucket. Never able to forget the harsh treatment dealt by fate in his early years, he used to hide crackers in his attic against the day when he might again be faced with starvation.

Mr. Stackpole said he had recently restored a 26-foot whaleboat. When he had sailed her he had a much greater respect for the seamanship of the whaleman.

Another adventurous Nantucket whaleman was William Cary, stranded from the whaleship "Oeno" among the cannibalistic Fiji Islanders. Captured and recaptured by lesser island chiefs, he was saved and ultimately returned to Nantucket through the efforts of the most powerful Fiji chief whom he recognized as his old schoolmate, David Whippey. One of the most famous whalemen who "went native", he was known to have eaten 50 men. "A man of prodigious appetite", the historian quipped. David Whippey was extremely valuable as an interpreter when the Wilkes Expedition arrived at the Fijis in 1840.

Of interest as a literary whaleman was William Hussey Macy who described his own experiences in the "Log of the Arethusa". Civil War Veteran and local registrar of deeds, he wrote voluminously for contemporary newspapers and magazines, and inaugurated the "Here and There" column in The Inquirer and Mirror, the speaker said.

In conclusion Mr. Stackpole talked briefly of other adventurous whalemen. Of Macys—Josiah, later merchant and banker in New York with a profitable packet service to Liverpool, and R. H. whose business ventures on Nantucket, at Haverhill and Boston, and in California during the Gold Rush days had ended in failure until he set up a store in New York. Of Benjamin Hussey whose outsize head must have contained "a bushel of brains" and who walked the streets of Dunkirk, France, seeking persons to inoculate for smallpox. Of Capt. William Mooers who flew the first American flag in a British port and at 80 took his whaleship to Davis Straits. The stories of these men are Nantucket's heritage and should never be forgotten.

**Mrs. J. Clinton Andrews Speaks
At Friends Meeting House.**

"An Old Time Nantucket Shooting Journal" will be the subject of a talk by Mrs. J. Clinton Andrews at the Friends Meeting House, Fair Street, on Tuesday afternoon, August 23, at 3 p.m. This is the seventh in the summer series of informal talks being sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association.

Mrs. Andrews, co-author with Ludlow Griscom, noted ornithological authority, of the book, "The Birds of Nantucket", was formerly on the faculty of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. She is now a year-round resident of Nantucket and is affiliated with the Maria Mitchell Association for which she gives summer courses on Nantucket birds.

A descendant of the Folger family, her interest in Nantucket developed further when she came to the island to teach science in the high school. It was during this time that she learned of the shooting journal kept by George H. Mackay during the 1870's and '80's. Mrs. Andrews' talk, which will combine this record of the past with her thorough knowledge of present bird populations on Nantucket, should be of great interest.

**Margaret Fawcett Wilson Speaks
About Her 'Sconset Childhood.**

Mrs. Margaret Fawcett Wilson will talk on "My Childhood Days in 'Sconset" at the Friends' Meeting House, Fair Street, Tuesday afternoon, August 30, at 3:00 p.m. This will be the last in the summer series of informal talks about Old-Time Nantucket which has been sponsored for a second season by the Nantucket Historical Association.

Mrs. Wilson will reminisce about 'Sconset at the turn of the century when her parents, Broadway actors George Fawcett and Percy Haswell, as well as a number of their friends of the New York stage, vacationed on the island. They fell in love with the little rose-covered fishing shacks along the Bluff, purchased and transformed them into summer homes, and began what became known as the "Actors' Colony".

Islanders and summer residents know Mrs. Wilson best for her activities in acting, directing, and writing plays for the Fawcett Players at the Straight Wharf Theatre which she developed in an old sail-making shop on the Wharf. Best loved in her Nantucket series of plays are "China Trade" and "Macy's Bright Star" which depicted incidents in the life of R. H. Macy.

She is now writing an episode production based upon authentic events from Nantucket history. This "cycorama" will eventually be an annual summer feature sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association and other civic groups.

A cordial invitation is being extended by the Historical Association to members and the public to hear Mrs. Wilson's talk. There will be no admission charge.

Nantucket Historical Association

is conducting a series of

INFORMAL TALKS

this summer at the

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Fair Street

The seventh talk will be held

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Mrs. J. Clinton Andrews

Subject: An Old Time Nantucket Shooting Journal

A cordial invitation to attend the talks, open to members and the public, is extended by the Council.

ADMISSION FREE

Nantucket Historical Association

is conducting a series of

INFORMAL TALKS

this summer at the

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Fair Street

The eighth talk will be held

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Mrs. Margaret Fawcett Wilson

Subject: My Childhood days in 'Sconset

A cordial invitation to attend the talks, open to members and the public, is extended by the Council.

ADMISSION FREE

AUGUST 27, 1955

Roland Wells Robbins to Speak
At Bennett Hall Lecture.

Under the auspices of the Nantucket Historical Association a lecture will be given on Tuesday, August 30, at 8 o'clock at Bennett Hall by Mr. Roland Wells Robbins on the subject "Treasure Hunting in Americana".

Mr. Robbins is an archeologist who has probably unearthed more long-buried evidence bearing on American history than any other individual. His methods and techniques are largely of his own invention. His probings are deep, his enthusiasms are wide, and they have enabled him to locate, excavate, and reconstruct many interesting historical landmarks.

At Saugus, Massachusetts, where the first U. S. Iron works were built in 1646, he was able to reconstruct on the old foundations the ancient blast furnace, warehouse, and forge, with replicas of the original water wheel revolving in sluices on the exact site of the former ones.

Many thousand visitors each year see Thomas Jefferson's house at Monticello, but it was not until Mr. Robbins located the foundation of the Jefferson ancestral home at nearby Shadwell that the site of the house in which Jefferson was born became known. Many interesting artifacts have been unearthed at Shadwell and excavations are continuing under the supervision of Mr. Robbins.

There had long been controversy among the disciples of Henry David Thoreau as to the location of his famous cabin at Walden Pond. Mr. Robbins, combining the arts of the detective with those of the archeologist, determined the exact site of the original cabin to the satisfaction of everyone. A plaque commemorates Robbins' work and marks the spot where the cabin stood.

As his next undertaking he plans to supervise excavations where the first powder mills in the U. S. were built by the Du Pont family near Wilmington, Delaware.

We hope Mr. Robbins will be interested in what he sees on Nantucket. If the location of some of the houses built by the early settlers nearly 300 years ago could be determined it seems fair to assume that considerable buried "treasure" of the type hunted by Mr. Robbins could be found.

Tickets are available at the Whaling Museum, Oldest House, Historical Museum, Miss Cora Stevens, and the Nantucket Pharmacy.

AUGUST 27, 1955

Mrs. James Clinton Andrews
And the "Shooting Journal".

Much work remains to be done by year round observers before a complete picture of Nantucket land and shore bird populations can be made known, Mrs. James Clinton Andrews, author and ornithologist, told her audience at the Friends Meeting House on Tuesday afternoon. Her talk was the seventh in the series sponsored this summer by the Nantucket Historical Association.

When comparing her own observations with earlier records, Mrs. Andrews found those for the nineteenth century very scarce. Thoreau had made one visit to the island and noted the birds he saw. Ornithologists Dr. Brewer & J. A. Allen came prior to 1875 and collected a few specimens. William Brewster, active in the Nuttall Bird Club, the first of its kind in this country, was on the island between 1870 and 1878. He was primarily interested in shore birds although he noted the land bird flights and his is the only Tennessee warbler record to date. Therefore the shooting journal of George H. Mackay is unique and its records of game birds from 1862 to 1922 are a gold-mine of information. 300 copies were privately printed by ornithologist John C. Phillips in 1927, and it is now a collector's item.

George H. Mackay, son of a Boston merchant in the East India trade, first came to Nantucket in 1872 on a shooting expedition. Here he met Maria Mitchell Starbuck, daughter of Matthew, who owned the "Middle Brick" on Main Street. He married her the next year and from then on spent more and more time here until his death at 93 in 1937. His shooting journal was begun in his early teens and records hunting trips to other parts of the country as well, but the major record concerns Nantucket, the speaker said.

Mackay's interests made him a naturalist and ornithologist as well as a sportsman, although hunting was his first love, Mrs. Andrews said. He wrote innumerable articles for "The Auk", the leading ornithological magazine. He frequently shot and made study skins or mounted specimens of birds he saw and sent them to the Smithsonian Institute or the Boston Society of Natural History for identification. His journal contains the first mocking bird record for Nantucket, although he did not recognize it as a year-round resident.

Mackay noted tremendous flocks of game birds during the 1870's and 1880's. In 1875 on Muskeget he saw a flock of 25,000 "coots" (American scoter), and one of 12,000 eiders. In 1880 he witnessed the last great fall migration of golden plover which had once been so numerous that in 1863 their flight had darkened the sun and enterprising Nantucketers had exhausted supplies of ammunition on the island in shooting this delicacy for the market. During these years he also recorded success in shooting oldsquaws, Hudsonian curlew, upland plover, yellow-legs, "greenheads", "pale bellies", and the "doughbird" or Eskimo curlew. Mackay's life spanned the critical years of birdshooting in the United States, Mrs. Andrews said.

He witnessed the great hunting days and lived to become an active conservationist who realized the "off-years" of the 1890's were actually an indication that the golden plover, Eskimo curlew, heath hen, and the Arctic tern, then popular as the "bird on Nellie's hat", were in danger of becoming extinct. He worked for the passing of state and local laws to limit the shooting of game birds and to establish definite hunting seasons. He persuaded the Selectmen on Nantucket to allocate \$100 to maintain a warden on Muskeget to protect the Arctic tern during their breeding season from the demands of the feather merchants. The history of the game bird in America has passed through seven stages—exploration, exploitation, exhaustion, rehabilitation, restriction, refuge, and research, Mrs. Andrews explained. George H. Mackay experienced all but the first during his life.

Since 1900, the leading ornithologists who visited the island were Edward Howe Forbush, authority on land birds, John C. Phillips, water birds, and W. Sprague Brooks who published the first list of Nantucket birds under the auspices of the Maria Mitchell Association. The author stated that she had referred to all existing records to supplement her own observations when preparing "Birds of Nantucket" for publication in 1948. Interest is growing, but much work remains.

During her lecture Mrs. Andrews exhibited mounted specimens of game birds mentioned by Mackay as well as several interesting old decoys.

Miss Helen Winslow was chairman for the afternoon.

Archaeologist To
Speak Here Tuesday

Noted archeologist Roland Wells Robbins will speak on "Treasure Hunting in Americana" Tuesday night at 8 in Bennett Hall in a talk sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association.

Mr. Robbins worked on the restoration of the first American iron works, built in Saugus in 1646, rebuilding on its old foundations the ancient blast furnace, warehouse and forge. He built an exact replica of the original water wheel which revolves in sluices on the site of its predecessor.

The foundation of Thomas Jefferson's ancestral home at Shadwell near Monticello was discovered by Mr. Robbins and the archeologist also determined the exact site of William Henry Thoreau's famous cabin at Walden Pond.

Supervision of excavations near Wilmington, Del. where the first powder mills in the United States were built by the DuPont family will be the next undertaking of Mr. Robbins.

You are invited to view the African Flags flown by Admiral Byrd on his expeditions to the North and South Poles were on display at Davisville, R. I., at the ceremonies launching the SeaBee "Operation Deep Freeze" recently. The flags were loaned to the Navy by the Nantucket Historical Association in whose possession the historic flags have remained for the past 20 years.

'Sconset In Early 1900's To Be Subject Of Talk

Days in 'Sconset at the turn of the century and experiences with some of the Broadway stars who started the "Actors' Colony" there will be recounted Tuesday afternoon at 3 at the Friends Meeting House by Mrs. Margaret Fawcett Wilson, former co-director of Straight Wharf Theater. Her talk will be the last in a Summer series of eight informal lectures sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association.

Mrs. Wilson will tell of how her parents, the late George Fawcett and Percy Haswell, actors and a number of New York stage friends vacationed on Nantucket, were intrigued by the little rose-covered fishing shacks along the Bluff and began the Colony.

Besides developing Straight Wharf Theater from an old sail-making shop on Straight Wharf, Mrs. Wilson has acted, directed and written plays for the Fawcett Players. Two of her Nantucket plays, "China Trade" and "Macy's Bright Star," which depicts incidents in the life of R. H. Macy, were produced locally.

Mrs. Wilson is currently writing a play based on Nantucket history which is scheduled to become an annual Summer feature sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association and other groups.

Barn Stages actress Kathy Du-

'Sconset Fifty Years Ago.

Mrs. Margaret Fawcett Wilson, speaking at the last of the summer series of talks sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association, spun a delightful string of reminiscences about 'Sconset and its famous Actors' Colony in the early years of this century. 'Sconset was remote and life was simple in those days before visitors arrived by air and news of hurricanes, baseball scores, and other matters of interest came promptly by radio. Actors then had long vacations since the theatres, without air conditioning, remained closed in the hot summer months. So the theatrical people, a gregarious race, adopted 'Sconset for a summer home.

Life was relaxed, attire was informal, entertainment was limited to parties at home and "doings" at the Casino. Mrs. Wilson embellished her talk with many interesting anecdotes about the famous theatrical personalities who made up the "cast" of life at 'Sconset in the good old days. This charming, casual way of life ended when Hollywood, radio, and air conditioned theatres provided the theatrical profession with year 'round employment.

Roland Wells Robbins Enjoyed By Small Audience.

Do you suspect you may have some history buried on your land? If you do you'd better start digging.

This is the substance of the advice Roland Wells Robbins gave in a very interesting illustrated lecture entitled "Treasure Hunting in Americana" at Bennett Hall on Tuesday night.

Mr. Robbins, self-styled "the pick and shovel historian", suggested a few things to do before you really get busy digging up your family grounds. To get all the facts, rumors, stories, and history of the region is a prerequisite to success in uncovering history by digging, that is, literally.

First one has to dig figuratively, Mr. Robbins said. This may be a bit of work more enervating than the actual physical labor. All available information must be accumulated. This includes reading histories of the land in question. It means studying newspaper reports of the territory, if any. It means gathering together all the folk tales and rumors, and even tales that are obviously just that. You never know where you are going to find a bit of information which could very well be the key to a vast buried treasure of history.

This was evident in Mr. Robbins' resurrection of the first blast furnace in the United States. This was located in the town of Saugus, Mass., on the edge of the Saugus River. There were no actual plans of the several building that went to make up the blast furnace. By judicious reading of all reports and rumors of this enterprise Mr. Robbins was able not only to say

that was such a establishment but also pointed out to scorers where he would find the several buildings. And every time he was right!

Mr. Robbins discovered in his excavations the foundations of several of the buildings. He told where he would find where the great water wheels were which operated the bellows which, in turn, furnished the blast of air that made the fire hot enough to melt the ore used. He not only found the foundations of the wheels, there were two of them, he actually found enough of the wheels themselves to be able to reproduce them perfectly.

The speaker went from Saugus to Lake Walden in Concord where he relocated Thoreau's lakeside cabin. A cairn had been erected on what was supposed to be the location of the cabin but Mr. Robbins suspected the cabin was about 50 feet away. This he proved after much reading and studying all available literature on the subject.

Mr. Robbins is currently looking for Thomas Jefferson's original home, not far from the present Monticello in Virginia.

It was interesting to note that Mr. Robbins has a very unique way of presenting his subject. When he was talking about things in New England he used a Y-^o in his voice; when he talked to Virginia there was just a suggestion of a southern drawl evident.

The pictures Mr. Robbins had projected on the screen were very well done. He presented a series of progressive pictures for all his subjects which made it easy to follow the actual work in uncovering the historical treasures. All his pictures were in color which added to the realism.

A question period followed in which he said there was a very good chance of restoring some of the ancient homes of Nantucket right on the site where they stood 300 years ago.

Mr. Robbins works for and with historical and restorative associations and he is making quite a name for himself.

Mr. Robbins has a very pleasing manner and presents his theme interjected with bits of humor. Mrs. Robbins was his projectionist and needed very little prompting except when Mr. Robbins did a little ad libbing from his prepared talk.

It was sad that more people could not have seen and heard this very enlightening and entertaining lecture which was presented by the Nantucket Historical Association. Those who did attend were more than pleased with an evening very well spent.

AUGUST 26, 1941

Nantucket Historical Association

is sponsoring a lecture on

TREASURE HUNTING IN AMERICA

by

MR. ROLAND WELLS ROBBINS

Tuesday August 30, at 8 p.m.

at

BENNETT HALL

Illustrated with Kodachrome Slides

Tickets \$1.10 including tax on sale at the Whaling Museum, Oldest House, Historical Museum, Miss Cora Stevens' and Nantucket Pharmacy.

Archaeologist Tells Of Experiences Here

Archaeologist Roland Wells Robbins, who said he prefers to be known as a "pick and shovel historian," demonstrated at an illustrated lecture at Bennett Hall Tuesday night some of the procedures and techniques which he has used to unearth and reconstruct famous American historical sites. Mr. Robbins talk was sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association.

The former independent contractor said that before an intended archaeologist does any digging he should be thoroughly acquainted with the history of the project he plans to work. He said that the archaeologist must collect, weigh and sift hearsay, legend and documentary evidence.

As an example of tracking down a legend, Mr. Robbins told of an amusing experience in the hills of Vermont. Hearing a fascinating tale of human Winter hibernation there, he investigated until he found the person who owned a yellowing newspaper clipping describing how six old people had been packed in a box in the snow all Winter and then revived in the Spring.

Mr. Robbins said he tracked the newspaper article down and finally found it has been written in 1887. The granddaughter of the man who originally told the story worked for the now-defunct paper which had published it, and to please him on his birthday, put one of his tall tales on the front page—another example, Mr. Robbins said, of how a legend grows from a simple fabrication or tall tale.

Attending a 1945 centennial celebration at Walden Pond in Concord, scene of Henry David Thoreau's famous work, Mr. Robbins said he became involved in a controversy as to where the naturalist's cabin site was located and was asked to find the exact spot. The supposed site of the cabin had been marked in 1845 with a rock cairn but the established location did not jibe with certain excerpts from Thoreau's book describing the area surrounding his small one-room cabin.

Historical Association Announces Open House

The Nantucket Historical Association will keep open house at the Fair Street Museum and the Oldest House and Whaling Museum on Sunday September 25. No admission will be charged between 2 and 5 o'clock.

These exhibits will then be closed for the season except the Whaling Museum which will remain open until October 12.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1955

Mr. Robbins said he dug under the stump of a tree which had fallen in the 1938 hurricane and found the chimney base and, using that as a guide, uncovered the cellar base and bushels of plaster, broken glass and bricks. While he was working on the project, Mr. Robbins said, he noticed two Army sergeants watching him. One of the men introduced himself as David Henry Thoreau Jr. and said he was a direct descendant of the famous naturalist. The "pick and shovel historian" showed the audience the sergeant's Army dogtag with the famous name stamped in the metal plate.

Another interesting and far more complicated project recounted by Mr. Robbins was the unearthing and complete reconstruction of the first iron works in America in Saugus. Built about 1646, the water-powered plant was in disuse 100 years before the Revolution and was buried under many feet of dirt and also two of the town's main thoroughfares.

The visiting archaeologist showed a number of slides depicting the gradual stages of the iron works' excavation and reconstruction, the rerouting of roads, moving of houses, building of dams to hold back the Saugus River, going by shovel and bulldozer and the rebuilding of the great stone forge, the blacksmith's shop, the warehouse and dock and the large wooden water wheels.

Begun in 1948, the Saugus Iron Works project, sponsored by the American Iron and Steel Institute, required four years to complete.

Wallace N. Long.

Wallace N. Long, one of the island's most respected citizens, died at the Nantucket Cottage Hospital on Saturday, September 3, 1955, after a long illness. "Cap'n Long", as he was known to all Nantucketers, had been the custodian of the Nantucket Whaling Museum for the past 12 years where he had made hundreds of friends among the summer visitors who enjoyed listening to his many stories of his life at sea as well as his vivid description of the exhibits in the museum.

Mr. Long was born in Nantucket on March 10, 1891, the son of William and Elizabeth Long. He attended the Nantucket schools and then embarked upon a seafaring career which carried him to all parts of the United States and numerous foreign countries. Among the ships he sailed on were the schooners "F. C. Pendleton," "Charles H. Tricky," and "Emily S. Baymoor". For a brief period he worked on the "Sea Urchin", a private ship. His last voyages were made on the "Alice Wentworth", the famous old schooner which is now plying the sea lanes along the Maine coast, with the renowned old captain, "Zeb" Til-ton.

A third project related by Mr. Robbins was the location of Thomas Jefferson's birthplace at Shadwell, about a mile and one half from famous Monticello. The cabin where the third president of the United States was born was occupied between 1725 and 1750 and later burned and the general area where it stood had been a plowed field for years.

To pinpoint the exact site of the house, Mr. Robbins said he had the field laid out in carefully charted ten foot square plots and had a mechanical posthole digger bore a hole in each one in search of a filled-in cellar. Finding no evidence of a cellar, he then had each plot dug down ten inches and carefully sifted for artifacts such as broken glass, kitchen utensils, bricks, nails, etc. The artifacts from each ten foot square plot were carefully placed in a labeled bag in the center of the area from which they came and by their increasing and decreasing number the actual outline of the various buildings which comprised the estates was found.

Following these clues, Mr. Robbins said, the foundation of the birthplace of President Jefferson was uncovered. He said he felt that within four years a reconstructed Shadwell will be a great attraction to thousands of Americans.

Mr. Robbins' next project is the supervision of excavations near Wilmington, Del. where the first American powder mills were built by the DuPont family.

His career at sea was interrupted by service with the United States Army in World War I. He was wounded in action in France and was awarded the Purple Heart. Upon his return from the service he re-entered the career so close to his heart, continuing to follow the sea until about 25 years ago.

He was a skilled cabinet maker and there are many homes on the island containing fine examples of his work.

On April 17, 1938, he married Miss Emilie Faas, of Short Hills, N. J., and they have since made their home on West Dover Street in Nantucket. Shortly after his marriage he entered the Whaling Museum as assistant to the late Captain George Grant, then custodian of the Museum. In 1942 he was appointed custodian, a position he held until last spring when he was obliged to retire because of his health.

He was a member of the Byron L. Sylvano Post, No. 82, American Legion.

In addition to his widow he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Thomas Rodman, of South Sutton, N. H., and Mrs. Nat Rockwell, of Milford, N. H., a brother, Frank Long, of Westwood, Mass., and by two half brothers, Leland S. Topham, of Nantucket, and Alvin Topham, of Fairhaven, Mass.

Funeral services were conducted at the Lewis Funeral Home at two o'clock Tuesday afternoon by the Rev. Clayton E. Richard and by the American Legion. Interment was in Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Historical Association Active Despite Season's Close.

Despite the closing of its various buildings and exhibits at the end of the summer season the Nantucket Historical Association is far from an inactive organization during the winter months. It still must play its part in helping to promote the economic welfare and life of the community, maintain and develop its properties and exhibits, and carry on its daily work of keeping contact with members, other historical associations, and the public in general, proof of which is found in some of its current activities.

There have been a number of changes by the action of the Council. Miss Ethel Anderson was elected a member of the Council and Secretary of the Association, succeeding, in the latter capacity, Mr. George W. Jones, who continues to serve as a Vice-President and member of the Council. Miss Anderson, in addition, has charge of all secretarial work of the Association office which, during the winter months, is located at 17 Fair Street, in space provided by President Adams in her residence.

Changes in the chairmanship of two buildings have taken place. Mrs. William Voorneveld, because of other activities, found it necessary to present her resignation as chairman of 1800 House which was accepted with regret. Mrs. Lewis Edgerton presented her resignation as chairman of the Oldest House which was prompted by her moving to Syracuse where her husband has entered into a new business. Her four years of service as chairman have been marked by significant restoration work and untiring effort in better preservation of the exhibits and their preservation. Her retirement is a distinct loss to the Association.

The Council has been fortunate in obtaining two successors. Mrs. John Bartlett, Jr., has been appointed and has accepted the chairmanship of 1800 House. Mrs. Bartlett is keenly interested in and aware of the problems of presenting to the public an exhibit such as this and for which she will serve as chairman.

The Council is exceedingly fortunate in having obtained Mrs. William Perkins' consent to serve as chairman of the Oldest House to which position she was appointed by the Council. Mrs. Perkins and her husband, who is Principal of the Cyrus Peirce School, have been interested students of Island history since they first moved here and have engaged in extensive research despite their many other activities.

At the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association, President Adams, in her annual address said: "We were never more certain that the future of our fine Association must be guarded by a younger generation of workers. How grand it would be to have half a dozen volunteers come along and say—'We are here to pledge our allegiance to the future of the Nantucket Historical Association.' The acceptance of this post by Mrs. Perkins is a prompt answer to this plea and the Council are not only gratified but hopeful that other members of the younger generation will follow closely as active workers for the Association to take over as the older workers are forced to lay down the reins.

As a Director at Large, President Nancy S. Adams attended the fall

Edward F. Sanderson

Edward F. Sanderson, a retired Congregational minister and one of the earliest benefactors of the Nantucket Whaling Museum, died at his home in Quidnet on October 31, 1955.

Mr. Sanderson was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on March 16, 1874, the son of Frederick Milton and Harriet P. Sanderson. He graduated from Amherst College in 1896 and received the Bachelor's Degree from Hartford Theological Seminary in 1899. He was ordained to the ministry on June 27, 1889, and became the pastor of the Washington Street Congregational Church, Beverly, Mass. In 1903 he transferred to the Central Congregational Church in Providence, where he remained until 1909 when he went to the Church of the Pilgrims in Brooklyn, N. Y. In 1915 and 1916 he was director of the Goodwill Industries in Brooklyn, and afterwards of The People's Institute in New York City.

He was at various times associated with the Congregational Home Mission Society, the Congregational Board of Ministerial Relief, the Rhode Island Hospital, Friendly House, United Neighborhood Guild, the Eye and Ear Hospital in Brooklyn, the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, the Camp Fire Girls of America, and was a trustee of Atlanta University. During the Spanish-American War he served in Company K of the 1st Connecticut Volunteer Infantry. He was twice married, on June 29, 1911, to the former Ethel Eames, and, on September 21, 1934, to Mrs. Grace (Jarvis) Schaufler.

In the early 1920's he purchased the property on Nantucket known as Moors End and it was during his ownership that the famous whaling murals were painted on the dining room walls of that house. He became interested in the island's history as a whaling port and began collecting whaling implements and other material pertaining to the whaling industry. What started out to be a simple hobby eventually turned to be one of the finest collections of whaling material in the country. The collection, representing an investment of over fifty thousand dollars, finally became a problem to Mr. Sanderson when it far exceeded his original plans and he presented the collection in its entirety to the Nantucket Historical Association.

At the time when the Historical Association was looking for a building to use as a Whaling Museum, the large brick candlehouse at the head of Steamboat Wharf was offered for sale. Mr. Sanderson most generously purchased the building and offered it to the Association at actual net cost under an option for a year in which to raise the money for its purchase. The campaign for funds took over two years. During that time, Mr. Sanderson extended the option and, in the summer of 1929, largely through his generosity and public-spiritedness, the building became the property of the Nantucket Historical Association. The main exhibit hall of the Nantucket Whaling Museum was named Sanderson Hall in honor of Mr. Sanderson, without whose generosity neither the Museum nor its valuable collection of whaling material would be in Gertrude A., both of Cleveland, Ohio.

Following cremation, interment was held in Cleveland this week.

"Historic Nantucket" Stresses Importance of School History

The October issue of "Historic Nantucket", the quarterly magazine of the Nantucket Historical Association, features the importance to Nantucket of a "wider knowledge of the neighborhood in which we live" and local history instruction in the schools.

An editorial published fifteen years ago in another historical association quarterly about its "Island" home is quoted in part, as it might well have been written today about Nantucket and its problem of preservation as evidenced by these extracts:

"We talk and write a great deal about conservation of the natural beauties of the Island and of the preservation of its historical landmarks... The Island has a marvelous heritage, both of history and tradition and of scenic cultural beauty... Aside from their personal or historic significance our local place names are one of our most precious possessions. Many of them are sheer poetry, and all of them an asset, if only in the way of stimulation to a wider knowledge of the neighborhood in which we live.

"One of the healthiest signs in this era of stress and uncertainty is the rapidly growing interest in local history. An appreciation of the fact that our step leads in pleasant places and an eagerness to know what has made them so. No one can deny that a sincere respect for one's own environment will make for better citizenship, in old and young.

"In the Island we stand in the shadow of a perpetual menace. Strangers who 'know not the father' are continually coming among us; a change in transportation..., and even the oldest of us may see our dearest associations swept away as by a gust of wind. That is, unless we make every effort and at once to hold fast to the best that remains."

Fifteen years later it seems that we on Nantucket Island are facing the same urgent problem. We have experienced "the change in transportation". We see the influx of "strangers who knew not the fathers" and, it should be added with respect to many, are not interested in the fathers and the heritage they left. And so today, facing the problem of preserving Nantucket's greatest asset—its heritage—we emphasize the concluding words of the editorial:

"Our hope lies with the children. The first responsibility is with the parents; the second with the schools... To interest the children is to interest the parents, to interest the parents is to interest and support the teachers. Who shall say that with such cooperation we will not be able to keep the Island always a lovelier and more distinctive place to live?"

Following up the editorial the quarterly presents William Hoadley's "Nantucket's Newspapers" and Kenneth Duce's "Summary of Nantucket History" which won the Association's 1954-55 local history awards at the high school and vocational school.

The 61st Annual Meeting of the Association and President Nancy S. Adams' 1954-55 Annual Report are presented in full together with other articles of current interest.

This edition of the quarterly was mailed to members in 38 states, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, and to far away Ceylon, showing the widespread membership of the Association.

Historic Districts Commission Subject of Editorial.

The importance to the Town of Nantucket of establishing the Historic Districts Commission is editorial subject of the January issue of "Historic Nantucket", the quarterly magazine of the Nantucket Historical Association. The editorial which reflects the position of the Association, reads as follows:

The Warrant for Nantucket's Annual Town Meeting to be held February 13th will include an Article reading as follows:

"To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 601 of the Acts of 1955 of the General Laws establishing an Historic Districts Commission for the Town of Nantucket with all the powers and duties thereof as provided for and defined in the above named Chapter of the General Laws."

The presentation of this Article to the voters is the final step in the plan industriously worked out during 1954 and 1955 by nine local organizations which believe that Nantucket's future lies in the preservation of its past evidenced in its Main Street mansions, old gray shingled houses and historic whaling structures together with its winding lanes and cobblestone streets.

Led by the Nantucket Civic League, the Nantucket Historical Association, the American Legion, Rotary Club of Nantucket, Chamber of Commerce, Siasconset Improvement Association, The Real Estate Dealers, Nantucket Taxpayers Association, and the Firemen's Association initiated and sponsored this Act. Subsequently the Summer Courtesy Town Meeting by resolution expressed its approval and recommended acceptance of the Act.

Before the Legislature passed and Governor Herter approved the precedent setting act, the Supreme Judicial Court was requested by an order of the Senate to pass upon its constitutionality. In deciding that the Act could be legally enacted the Court stated in part:

The definition of the purpose of the proposed Act as set forth in Pp. 1 is — 'the preservation and protection of historic buildings, places and districts of historic interest; through the development of an appropriate setting for these buildings, places and districts; and through the benefits resulting to the economy of Nantucket in developing and maintaining its vacation-travel industry through the promotion of these historic associations'."

Commenting upon what Nantucket has at stake, the Court said in part:

"We may also take judicial notice that Nantucket is one of the very old towns of the Commonwealth; that for perhaps a century it was a famous seat of the whaling industry and accumulated wealth and culture which made itself manifest in some fine examples of early American architecture; and that the sedate and quaint appearance of the old island town has to a large extent still remained unspoiled and in all probability constitutes a substantial part of the appeal which has enabled it to build up its summer vacation business to take the place of its former means of livelihood."

The danger which Nantucket constantly faces and which threatens its future unless protected by a flexible law such as this proposed Act is recognized in the following words of the Court:

"It is not difficult to imagine how the erection of a few wholly incongruous structures might destroy one of the principal assets of the town. . . ."

Briefly the Act provides that it is the function of the Commission to decide upon the appropriateness of the exterior architectural features of buildings hereafter to be erected, altered or restored in the Districts, keeping in mind the purposes of the Act, the general design, materials, etc., involved, especially in relation to similar features of buildings in the Districts so as to prevent developments obviously incongruous to the Districts. To this end, no building shall be erected, reconstructed, altered, restored in the defined Historic Districts in Nantucket and Siasconset until an application has been approved by the Commission as to exterior architectural features subject to public view from a public street, way or place. Further, no building or structure in the Districts shall be razed if, in the opinion of the Commission, it would be detrimental to the public interest. The erection or display of public signs in the Districts also is under the Commission's jurisdiction. Property owners are protected by a right to appeal rulings of the Commission to the Selectmen and to the Superior Court.

It is our opinion that this Act, if adopted, together with the Planning Board By-Law adopted February, 1955, will give the Town of Nantucket two laws which will protect its business — the vacation industry — and will bring the right type of business to the Island. The words of the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court should carry weight with our members in reaching a decision for they were prudent words, carefully weighed without prejudice and void of any pressure.

Nantucket Forty-Niners, the first of four articles by Helen M. Winslow on the Gold Rush days is another feature. This article tells of the Gold Rush voyages from Nantucket and presents a graphic picture of a voyage around the Horn as told in the Journal-Log of James M. Bunker, II, a passenger on the ship "Aurora" which made the voyage from Nantucket to San Francisco in 179 days.

Mrs. Walton H. Adams, President of the Nantucket Historical Association, attended the winter meeting of the Bay State Historical League, at Brookline, Mass., on Saturday, January 28. The meeting was held in the Edward Devotion School at Coolidge Corner and was attended by 264 delegates representing 68 societies. The subject for the morning session was "How Can We Help the Historical Society to Develop its Place in the Local Community?" At the afternoon session the speaker was Bruce Lancaster, historian and novelist, whose subject was "On the 19th of April in '75". At the close of the meeting refreshments were served in the school cafeteria.

"Winter Gam" held Last Friday.

The annual "Winter Gam", sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association, was held last Friday evening at the Maria Mitchell Association library. A full report of this enjoyable evening will appear next week.

2-26-56

March 3 - 56

"Moby Dick" Director Host At New Bedford Luncheon.

Mrs. Walton H. Adams, President of the Nantucket Historical Association, attended a very special luncheon at the New Bedford Hotel's "Jolly Whaler" on Friday, March 2, as one of the invited guests of film producer John Huston who had just flown in from Paris bringing with him the final films of Herman Melville's "Moby Dick".

Mr. Huston, celebrated in the field of film directing and son of the celebrated actor Walter Huston, had requested that a group of some twenty people who represented the whaling industry and old New Bedford be invited to the luncheon as his guests.

From the moment he stepped into the room his dynamic personality was felt by all present. Tall, lanky, about fifty years of age, with a most refreshing sense of humor, and a friendliness of manner, he made friends with each individual.

In a musical voice he expressed his pleasure at being in old New Bedford and his happiness in meeting this particular group of people. Asked why he chose Ireland to make the picture

Continued on Page Three

"Moby Dick" Director Host At New Bedford Luncheon.

Continued from Page One

"Moby Dick", he said "New Bedford is too modern now to look like the old days so we chose a little town called Yougall on the coast of Ireland as the nearest like the old Massachusetts town."

The citizens were most happy to have their town made into a little New Bedford and liked it so well they expect to keep it, made over. Mr. Huston said he started "Moby Dick" as a young lad and kept on reading it and his great desire in later years was to make it into a picture.

His fondest wish, he said, was that all might find the picture good enough to be as he intended it to be—a tribute to our grandfathers.

He said his connection with whaling was no nearer than "that I discovered a member of the crew was named Huston." Asked why he did not become an actor instead of making pictures his reply was that his father was a good actor and did a good job.

Mr. Huston has been three years in making the picture, and his wife and daughters have been living in Galway, Ireland, while he has been busy on the picture.

He announced that the premiere of the picture will be shown in New Bedford on July 4th of this year, and there is to be a three day celebration. "We must have all these people come to New Bedford again for the premiere."

At the close of his remarks the city's Mayor Lawler presented Mr. Huston with a gift from the city, which proved to be a pair of bronze book-ends, replicas of the New Bedford Whaleman Statue. He showed real emotion when thanking the Mayor for the gift.

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JIRE. While the pictures, chant himself will be lacking, his blue long-tailed coat made on an island loom from Nantucket sheep's wool, and his high beaver hat, relics of the past, will be hanging on wooden pegs.

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The cooper shop, with its fireplace to heat the wood of the casks in the making, winches, benches, tools, hoops of various sizes, and casks in process and completed, will depict why it is said the making of casks was an art as against the ordinary barrel making. And well it may be for in the old days casks were entirely hand made and so accurately that they could be taken apart and then reformed when needed by the ship's cooper.

A sail loft and a rigger's loft will each have a section and, last but not least, there will be a boat builder's ship with, it is hoped, a small-sized whale boat in the making.

The booths or sections will be constructed with varying width rough old wall boards with heavy studs showing and open beam ceiling such as would have been found in the old shops. The counting room will be the exception as it will be fitted with locked wall boards and be painted white. Old small pane windows will add realism to each booth and special attention will be given to provide adequate lighting but installed so as to be unobtrusive. The booths or sections will be about six feet wide and varying in length from 10 to 22 feet.

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Work has been started this week and will be carried forward as rapidly as possible so that alterations and major part of the installation can be completed before the cold winter months arrive. All of the work is scheduled to be completed by early spring and ready for the usual opening date of the Museum in May, 1959. Thus at the opening of Nantucket's 10th Anniversary, the Historical Association will have ready for presentation a major offering with respect to the history of the Island not only the celebration but as a further permanent exhibit offered to the public.

LEGAL NOTICE

Call of Special Meeting

of Members of

Nantucket Historical Association

members of the Nantucket
called hereby to be held Tues-
at 4 p.m., at St. Paul's Church
eet, Nantucket.

I act upon the request of the
sioners, County of Nantucket,
s., that the Association release or
own or County of Nantucket a
certain portion of the Association's land at the
corner of Broad and South Beach Streets gen-
erally described as running twenty-nine (29)
feet westerly on Broad Street from the corner of
Broad and South Beach Streets and twenty-nine
(29) feet northerly on South Beach Street from
the corner of South Beach and Broad Streets
being a crescent shaped piece of land with a
maximum depth of twelve feet from the corner
of the Association's property at Broad and South
Beach Streets said land to be used by the town
or county as part of the said streets and side-
walks incident thereto; and

- (2) To consider and act upon any other proposals, transactions and resolutions incident and pertaining thereto which may be brought before the meeting.

Mrs. Walton H. Adams

Dated President
March 30, 1956 Nantucket Historical Association

Historical Association Meeting Votes Land Easement.

At a special meeting of the members of the Nantucket Historical Association, held in the parish house of St. Paul's Church on the afternoon of April 10, a resolution was adopted authorizing the officials of the Association to grant to the Town of Nantucket an easement on a part of the land adjoining the Whaling Museum at the corner of Broad and South Beach Streets.

This easement was granted in order to give the Town enough land to widen the roadway at this busy corner. This should greatly facilitate the flow of traffic between the center of the Town and Brant Point. During the summer months the traffic at this point has often been seriously congested.

The proposed improvement is especially desirable at this time in view of the increased activity of Steamboat Wharf, when the new steamer "Nantucket" is put into operation.

At the close of his remarks the city's Mayor Lawler presented Mr. Huston with a gift from the city, which proved to be a pair of bronze book-ends, replicas of the New Bedford Whaler Statue. He showed real emotion when thanking the Mayor for the fine gift.

On Mr. Huston's right sat a very gracious lady who was Mrs. Henry Metcalf, granddaughter of Herman Melville. They had previously met in Mr. Huston's suite at the hotel where they had a little visit prior to the luncheon. He was delighted to meet her and talk about her famous grandfather.

When Mrs. Metcalf and her husband had to leave for another engagement, there was a noisy commotion at the entrance and who should appear but the famous Rocky Marciano. It seems he had promised the Mayor he would stop and see him when visiting New Bedford and the Mayor was at this luncheon so Rocky was invited to "come on over". With police escort he made his appearance and for a few minutes he was the object of a noisy and whooping welcome. A harpoon was produced and Rock was instructed how to throw a harpoon into a whale, with many suggestions from Representative F. Eben Brown, son of the famed maker of whaling irons and from William E. Tripp, former Curator of New Bedford Whaling Museum.

Mr. Huston admitted his eager interest in boxing in his youth and was most happy to meet Marciano.

In making the picture of "Moby Dick" Mr. Huston said some of the actual whaling scenes were made off the island of Madeira. He said "we found not only a sizeable number of whales but also fishermen who hunted them as they did in Ahab's day, by regular harpooneers."

He also said the actual "Moby Dick" was made of steel and timber with an elastic covering, which was surprisingly realistic as it was towed through the rough sea.

Mr. Everett S. Allen, assistant to the editor of the Standard Times, introduced the guests to Mr. Huston and to their fellow guests with a brief sketch of their interest in whaling and each one stood as introduced. First was Mayor Lawler, then Mr. and Mrs. Henry Metcalf from Cambridge; Portuguese Consul Vasco A. Villela and Mrs. Villela, whose father was a whaling master; Mr. John L. E. Pell, author of the original "Down to the Sea in Ships" scenario which had its premiere in New Bedford in 1942; Mr. Chester Scott Howland, author of several books on whaling, his latest being "Thar She Blows"; Hiram R. Haggard, Director of the Swain School of Design, and Mrs. Haggard; Attorney Bryant Prescott; Walter Hackett, lecturer, author and world traveller; Eduard A. Stackpole, Curator of the Marine Historical Association in Mystic, Conn., author of "The Sea Hunters" and other sea stories.

Also introduced were Mr. William E. Tripp, retired from 25 years service as Curator of the Old Dartmouth Whaling Museum in New Bedford and author and lecturer, also recognized internationally as an authority on whaling; Mrs. Nancy S. Adams, President of the Nantucket Historical Association and daughter of George A. Grant, a whaler, and granddaughter of Capt. Charles Grant, a famous whaler; Col. Eugene S. Clark, Jr., author, lecturer and recognized authority on marine life.

Other guests were Art Moger, N. E. Representative of Warner Bros. Inc., which will release "Moby Dick", and Harry Zeitz, owner of the State Theatre where the premiere will be held. It has been stated that it will be shown simultaneously at three theatres in New Bedford. Others present were Mrs. Basil Brewer, Miss Minna Littman, Mr. Reginald Hegarty, son of the late Capt. William C. Hegarty, master of many whale ships, the former Mrs. Clifford Ashley and others. It was a most amazing gathering for such short notice.

Two late comers who were unable to arrive earlier owing to flying conditions at Martha's Vineyard, were Mr. Amos Smalley, the foremost living whaler among the Indians of Gay Head, a former boat steerer of renown, and the only man on record, outside of "Moby Dick" who has harpooned a white whale. Also Lorenzo Jeffers, descendant of Mittark, renowned Chief of the Indians on Martha's Vineyard and a son and grandson of whalers and able mariners.

Smalley and Jeffers were given a special luncheon in Mr. Huston's suite and had a gay time with him. They had been told if they had to stay over night that they would be supplied with a razor and tooth brushes. Jeffers chuckled and said, "I never shaved in my life." Mr. Smalley, who is 78 years old, said he had used a razor only a few times in his life. Mr. Jeffers may be recalled as working at Swain's ice-plant some years ago and had a little girl born here in Nantucket.

Mr. Huston's day began when he arrived at the Logan Airport early Friday morning where he was met by Mayor Lawler and flown to New Bedford in a M.A.I. plane. He was taken at once to the Standard Times office and introduced to the entire staff. He then went to the High School where he spoke at the student assembly to hundreds of cheering boys and girls. Then followed the brief visit with Mrs. Metcalf in his suite, before time for the luncheon. After lunch he talked with the Gay Head folks and then had a television interview with Miss

W.J.A.R. Immediately following he was escorted in company with Jeffers and Smalley to the Whaling Museum

**Extensive New Exhibits Planned
At Whaling Museum.**

Another chapter is to be added to the story told by the Nantucket Historical Association about the industry which made Nantucket famous throughout the world. At its September meeting the Council approved plans for the creation of extensive new exhibits at the Whaling Museum. About two thirds of the ground floor space of the Whaling Museum heretofore unused except for storage is to be altered to house and present properly the new exhibits which will be in addition to but a marked departure from the present exhibits of whaling material, models, pictures, books, etc.

When the installation is completed the visitor will find a series of booths or sections each of which will present in a restricted space an industry or craft collateral to the business of whaling. In olden days these were found on the wharves, the adjacent streets and scattered throughout the town but all of them have long since disappeared. A survey of the Association's archives and store rooms has produced a wealth of material, heretofore not displayed for lack of space, for setting up the exhibits. Old pictures and descriptive records will help to set up these reproductions but authenticity will be assured through participation in the work of William H. Tripp, an authority on the whaling industry who recently joined the museum committee and who has volunteered to direct the setting up of the exhibits.

Proceeding from the reception desk toward the rear of the building, when the installation is completed, the visitor will first pass through a storage area of old whale oil barrels, scales, boat davits, and other stores. Then passing through a doorway in a gray shingled exterior wall of a building, the visitor will step into a hallway with the exhibit booths ranged on each side.

First in line will be the corner of a whaling merchant's counting room. It will contain the merchant's desk, one which was in the office of Mathew Crosby & Son, ship owners and merchants, and Captain Charles M. Fisher's chair, the size of which is proof as to the huge build of the Captain. Boxes, some lettered with the names of whale ships, in which the ship's papers were held will be stored, as in days of old, on shelves above a replica of the bookkeeper's standing desk. A barometer, a sextant used by Captain Robert Swain, sea chest, spy glasses, charts, prints, crew lists, and other items of interest will be shown. While the picturesque merchant himself will be lacking, his blue, long-tailed coat made on an island loom from Nantucket sheep's wool, and his high beaver hat, relics of the past, will be hanging on wooden pegs.

Next in line will be the ship smith or whale craft shop in which the blacksmith forged the "irons," called harpoons by the laymen, the spades, cutters, and other iron utensils. It will have a replica of an old brick forge and chimney, an enormous bellows hung from the ceiling to increase the chimney draft, the anvils, leather aprons and tools.

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June 23 1956

300th Anniversary

Historical Association President Attends League Meeting.

The spring meeting of the Bay State Historical League was held at Wellesley on Saturday, April 21. The 250 delegates attending were guests of the Wellesley Historical Society. Mrs. Walton H. Adams, President of the Nantucket Historical Association, was a delegate. Welcome was extended by the President of the Host society, Col. Laurence Eliot Bunker.

The speaker for the meeting was Miss Lucy Wilson, Professor and Dean of Students Emerita of Wellesley College. Her subject was "Wellesley College and Town".

The delegates were given an opportunity during the morning hours to visit the Historical Society collections in the Town Hall; the art building and library of Wellesley College. Babson Institute was also open to visitors where they viewed the great relief map of the United States and the world's largest revolving globe, which is 28 feet in diameter, showing the world on a scale of 24 miles to the inch.

July 1956

Milford Haven, Wales, Citizen Opens Informal Talks.

On July 3, Mr. Arthur H. Jackson, the Deputy Clerk of the Urban District Council of the Township of Milford Haven, Wales, gave the first of this summer's informal talks sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association. He brought with him as gifts from the Town of Milford Haven a scroll with the seal of the Township conveying cordial greetings to the Town of Nantucket from Milford Haven, and a genealogical table of the Nantucketers who went to Milford Haven to establish a whaling industry there. The table contains very complete family records over many generations, and will be made available by the Historical Association to persons interested in examining it. He also made a gift of a Welsh Love Spoon.

These spoons, elaborately carved from maple, are rarely produced today. They were formerly sent by young men to the ladies of their choice and constituted an avowal of more than passing interest. If the gift was accepted, the young man was thus openly acknowledged as a suitor; if it was returned, the implication was obvious. However, the gift and its acceptance did not imply an engagement, only a willingness to consider a proposal. It seems possible that the current verb to "spoon" traces its origin to this custom. The gifts were accepted by President Nancy Adams on behalf of the Historical Association.

In conclusion Mr. Jackson showed on slides a number of interesting pictures of Milford Haven taken by Miss Margaret Harwood on a recent visit, with his comments and explanations.

The next talk, on July 10, will be by Dr. William E. Gardner, who is the author of a number of books on Nantucket.

Historical Association Essay Winners Announced.

In the competition for the Nantucket Historical Association's two annual local history awards, four essays were selected by the High School and four sketches, "Historical Nantucket Buildings", by the Vocational School.

The essay "Nantucket Lighthouses", by Gerald Eldridge, won the High School prize, and the sketch submitted by Frederick Chase the Vocational School prize.

The awards made by the Historical Association were two handsomely engrossed certificates, in gold frames, bearing the name of the winner and a description of the award. These were presented at the school graduation exercises.

The other essays selected for consideration were by Maybelle Petumenos, Carl Richard and Bernard Russell. The other sketches were those of Richard Minstrell, Robert Allen, and Philip Marks.

To further stimulate the interest of the Nantucket students in local history, the Council of the Historical Association has awarded each student whose essay or sketch was selected for consideration a one year membership in the Association. Letters have been written by Mrs. Walton H. Adams, President, to the eight aforementioned students welcoming them as members. These memberships entitle the holders to free admission to the Association's building and museums, to receive the quarterly magazine, Historic Nantucket, and to participate in the general activities of the Association.

Mrs. Adams, president, represented the Association at the Annual Meeting of the Bay State Historical League at West Bridgewater, on June 9th, as guest of the Old Bridgewater Historical Society.

The speaker at the meeting was Laurist W. Reynolds, who related the story of Old Bridgewater showing colored slides of the old town. William T. Shinnick gave an instructive talk on the land lay outs of early years.

NANTUCKET HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The sixty-second Annual Meeting of the members of the Association will be held at the Unitarian Church, Tuesday, July 17, 1956, at 3 p.m., for the following purposes:

The reception of annual reports; the election of officers to serve for the fiscal year 1956-57; the election of two Councillors; and the transaction of any other business brought before the meeting.

The Council has great pleasure in announcing that the guest of honor will be

MR. EDOUARD A. STACKPOLE

who has consented to address the meeting and has chosen for his subject: "The Challenge of an Island Heritage."

Members and their guests are cordially invited to attend.

Nancy S. Adams, President

George W. Jones New President Of Historical Association.

The sixty-second annual meeting of the Nantucket Historical Association was held on Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock, at the Unitarian Church on Orange Street.

President Nancy S. Adams extended a cordial word of welcome to the one hundred or so members who attended before calling upon the secretary, Miss Ethel Anderson, to read the minutes of the last annual meeting.

Since the annual reports of the treasurer, finance committee, and chairmen of the various exhibits were all published in the July issue of "Historic Nantucket," the Association's quarterly magazine, it was voted to dispense with the reading of these reports and to accept them as presented.

Mrs. Adams then presented to the meeting her report as president. In the course of her remarks she mentioned especially Mrs. Alma Backus, who is now in her twenty-fifth year as receptionist at the Fair Street Museum. Mrs. Backus has, during these many years, served the Association loyally and cheerfully and is in no small way responsible for the interest shown in the exhibits by the many visitors to the Museum each year.

She also spoke of the loss to the Association by the death of Wallace N. Long, who contributed so much to the Whaling Museum, and also of the good fortune the Association had had in securing Archibald Cartwright as his successor in the position of custodian.

There is now a total of 1,063 members in the Nantucket Historical Association. Of these 143 are life members, 63 sustaining members, and 857 annual members.

In discussing the activities carried on during both the summer and the winter months by the Council and also by her in attending meetings of other historical societies on the mainland, Mrs. Adams spoke briefly of her participation in the gala world premiere of the movie "Moby Dick" in New Bedford in June. She, as well as others, was disappointed that Nantucket did not receive due credit as the port from which the "Pequod" sailed on Ahab's memorable trip.

On Monday the work began of removing the corner at the intersection of Broad and beach Streets, as the result of the vote of the Association earlier in the season to grant an easement to the Town in order to relieve the traffic at the congested corner. In mentioning this, Mrs. Adams stated that the workmen in digging at the corner had found ashes and other residue which it is believed are the remains of the disastrous fire of 1846 which destroyed the business district of the town.

In conclusion, Mrs. Adams announced that she had made the decision to retire from her duties as president of the Association and as custodian of collections for personal reasons and with the deepest regret.

She was given hearty applause at the conclusion of her report.

Following her report as president, Mr. W. Ripley Nelson arose to present to Mrs. Adams, in behalf of the Board of Selectmen, the certified copy of the law passed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts instituting the Historic Districts Commission and the quill pen used by Governor Christian A. Herter in signing the bill creating the Commission. Both the certified copy and the quill pen will be put in the Fair Street Museum.

The chairman of the nominating committee, Mrs. Rozelle C. Jones, was called upon to present the report of the committee, which was accepted by the meeting and voted upon, the secretary being authorized to cast one ballot for the election of the following officers:

President, George W. Jones; Vice-Presidents, Howard U. Chase, Everett U. Crosby, Burnham N. Dell, Miss Grace Brown Gardner, Stokeley W. Morgan, and W. Ripley Nelson; Secretary-Treasurer Miss Ethel Anderson; Auditor, Ormonde F. Ingall; Councillor until 1958, Robert Caldwell; Councillors until 1960, Mrs. William L. Mather and Mrs. William Perkins.

Mrs. Adams then stated that in the thirty years she had been connected with the Association, and especially the three years as president, she had learned to know and love the collections housed in the various buildings and felt that she could almost call them by name. In retiring from active work with the Association, she said she would never lose interest therein and would always be at hand to help in any way she could. She then called upon Mr. Jones to step forward to receive the gavel as the new president

Continued on Page Two

George W. Jones New President Of Historical Association.

Continued from Page One
of the Association and said that she didn't know of anyone she would rather see as president—an island-born Nantucketer who had married another island-born Nantucketer.

Before Mr. Jones could do more than say "Thank you", Mr. Nelson requested the floor and told of his years of close association with Mrs. Adams in the work of the Nantucket Historical Association and asked that the meeting give her a rising vote of thanks. This was promptly done, following which Mr. Jones laughingly said that Mr. Nelson had "stolen his thunder." He went on to say that friends are desirable things to have, but that they can also get one into a "pack of trouble" and it seemed to



Snap Shop Photo

MRS. WALTON H. ADAMS

him that that was what had now happened to him. He stated, in a more serious vein, that he, too, wished to congratulate Mrs. Adams for her years of work so ably performed and extended to her an invitation to attend the meeting of the Council to be held at four o'clock Friday afternoon at the Friends Meeting House.

Mr. Jones then introduced the speaker of the afternoon—Mr. Edward A. Stackpole, former president of the Association, a Nantucketer, former assistant editor of *The Inquirer and Mirror*, and now curator of Mystic Seaport in Mystic, Conn.

Mr. Stackpole's informal talk to the gathering was entitled "The Challenge of Our Island Heritage" and was given in his own inimitable manner for which he has long been noted here on Nantucket. Mr. Stackpole's speech will be found on page 5 of this issue and we call the attention of our readers to it because of its content and the sincerity in which it was written and presented at the meeting.

President Jones adjourned the meeting shortly after four o'clock, after which those attending had an opportunity to talk with, and congratulate three presidents of the Association—Mr. Stackpole, Mrs. Adams, and the new president, Mr. Jones.

June 23 1956

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Nancy S. Adams

300th Anniversary Celebration

Suggested by Dr. Gardner.

A possible 300th anniversary on Nantucket, July 2, 1959, was considered by Dr. Will Gardner in an informal talk Tuesday afternoon at the Friends Meeting House. It was the second in a summer weekly series presented by the Historical Association.

Mrs. Nancy Adams, President of the Association, introduced Dr. Gardner and, after commending his writing of books on Nantucket families, the Starbuck, Coffins, and Folgers, announced his subject: "A Ramble in 1659 and Nantucket Bought for Thirty Pounds and Two Beaver Hats".

"The second day of July, 1959, three years from this month, might become a very great day for this Island", said the speaker, "for on that day 300 years ago our Island was bought by Tristram Coffin, Thomas Macy, Edward Starbuck, and seven others acting as a company and its settlement began."

The speaker explained that the title "A Ramble in 1659" was chosen because dry dates and documents would be avoided and visits to some old houses and locations would humanize the first settlers and help discover why they left pleasant Merrimac Valley and came to an unfertile island surrounded by treacherous shoals, to make a new start in life.

The first visit was to the Thomas Macy house in Amesbury. Built possibly in the 1640's by Thomas Macy, it may have been here that the purchase of the Island was first considered. Macy and Thomas Mayhew, of Martha's Vineyard, the owner of all the islands of southern New England, were cousins and also members of the Colonial Council; frequent meetings and interchange of visits is reasonable, and as Mayhew had bought the islands to escape from irritating conditions in Watertown, so Macy and others might follow his lead.

In like manner the speaker presented the character and conditions of Starbuck in Dover and Coffin in Newbury and a possibility of a considerable period of time passing as they discussed the circumstances involved.

There are no records of these early years, but in February, 1659, we have records that imply many meetings of the "owners of the Island of Nantucket". These records show there was much discussion, especially on the form of government, the division of land and the possibility of buying the Indians' rights. In these records Peter Folger (grandfather of Benjamin Franklin) the overseer of Thomas Mayhew, emerges as familiar with all details and conditions of the Island, so much so that on the committee to divide the land he was made the most important member and no final action could be taken unless he was present.

It is clear that the actual transfer of the Island waited for evidence that Mayhew could buy land from the Indians. Peter Folger finally brought the news that he could deal with Sachem Nanahuma and Sachem Nickanoose and on June 20 the sale of the Western end of the island was made to Mayhew for 12 pounds and the deed signed by the Indians. Ten days after, all met in Edgartown at Mayhew's house and the transaction was finished.

It is reasonable to think that the "two beaver hats, one for myself and one for my wife" was added as a compliment to Tristram Coffin, for his son was a well-known tailor and his furs widely recognized.

In conclusion Dr. Gardner said: "The Coffins, Macys, Starbuck, and all the men and women who left the Merrimac area, were dynamic people. They sought escape from a community where their liberties were questioned and invaded. They came to our Island for freedom—freedom from interference with their opinions and judgments and ideals, freedom to create and maintain life they believed was the best for them. They took codfish from the surrounding sea and then whale oil from distant seas and turned them into wealth and built a town with many houses and buildings we treasure. The descendants of the three leaders nestled their homes together on Main Street, and there they stand today, unforgettable houses: five Starbuck, eight Coffins, three Macys—all admired by visitors who yearn to enter them.

"What better memorial to our first settlers could we provide than a three hundredth anniversary starting July 2, 1959, the date of the signing of the '30 pounds and two beaver hats' deed.

"All over the United States are Nantucket families who write us about their yearnings to see Nantucket.

"The idea is worth consideration—an anniversary period, at this time of confusion, when we revive the past and live with our ancestors who sought this Island as a refuge."

The Challenge Of an Island Heritage.

By Edouard A. Stackpole.

As presented at the annual meeting
of the Nantucket Historical Association
on Tuesday, July 17.

A legend of the Greeks tells of a wanderer who arrived, weary and aged, at the world's end and stopped to quench his thirst at a clear spring. After one draught of the enchanted water he realized that this was the same spring that had refreshed him in his youth.

In our uneasy American world today there are only a few spots which are imbued with this peculiar quality to refresh — and Nantucket is one of these favored places. They recapture that illusion of past — they wreak a magic in one's memory.

Other seaport towns may compete with Nantucket in beauty. You may find beaches for swimming in a dozen other summer resorts; you may enjoy sailing to better advantage at numerous stretches along the New England coast; you may discover equally well-appointed hotels and rooming houses at other places. But what sets Nantucket apart is something you cannot find in these other places. It is that awareness that in this island-town we are in the presence of a compelling tradition — a tradition unique in the annals of America — a heritage bequeathed by a generation of sea kings the like of which the nation will never see again — mariners who made the name Nantucket known all over the world.

As we wander through the streets and lanes of this historic town we are close to the physical evidences of this past, immersing ourselves simultaneously in today and yesterday. Here we are reminded of the courage, persistence, daring, and self-reliance of that breed of Quaker seamen who evolved a unique kingdom in the sea.

Writers have extolled the quality of Nantucket's peculiar architectural perfection. Artists capture the many appealing vistas of town and harbor. Talented orators have praised the story of the island's past, and the journalists find a variety of material supplying their pens and their journals.

And now, only in recent months, with an inspiring rush of good fortune, the Historic Districts Bill has provided the implementation for a legal protection of the architectural inheritance of the old town.

But tradition so bequeathed to us as islanders is not alone confined to the sturdy houses and winding lanes which make up the so-called "historic districts" of our island. Our heritage is far greater than ancient wood and brick, and locale; it is a human symbol, not a material one.

Suppose a disaster (heaven forbid!) should destroy to a large degree our old town? Suppose a great campaign enabled us to rebuild and reconstruct. Would it be the same? Of course, it could not be so to us, but perhaps another generation would not comprehend the wide difference or realize what had been lost. In fact, another hundred years hence might add the illusion of great age, so that only the historian and the archaeologist would comprehend that the irreplaceable was gone forever.

On the other hand, no disaster can ever destroy the true heritage of Nantucket — that potent force which created the old town in the first place. Those Nantucketers of the 17th, 18th, and early 19th centuries gave of their minds and hearts as well as of their hands. They built something stronger than dwellings and warehouses; they stood squarely and confidently on definite principles whether within their homes or counting houses or on the decks of their ships. Though their empire has vanished, their legacy remains, for it is woven into the history, economy, and geography of the nation.

What Is This Heritage?

History is to a nation what memory is to an individual. In this island town we have a people who are actually living closer to the community's past than any other similar group in America. If we pause to reflect amid these visible evidences of our heritage we are aware of the deeper significance of our relationship with the past. It is like a psychological cocktail.

What is this heritage — this Nantucket tradition? As much as I would like to present the romantic I am afraid that the basic parts are more fixed and less emotional. The several elements are composed of determination, self-reliance and ability on the one hand, and religious faith, devotion to duty, and love of home on the other. These are the component parts of the inheritance bequeathed us by our forefathers.

Tradition is not a documented history. Yet, on the other hand, is it not true that much of written history is merely apparent illogical deductions of what writers may have believed were the facts? Tradition is the tested, tried-out opinions, statements, and beliefs which have been handed down from generation to generation by oral transmission, the knowledge of which is communicated in most cases within written memorials.

It was Hawthorne who said: "Nobody can make a tradition; it takes a century to make it." I may add it takes a living generation to continue to transmit it.

Our Nantucket tradition is unalterably a blending of whaling, Quakerism, and family trees. Such an incongruous mixture was placed in the try-pots of this island, during two centuries and a half of life, and the product, fused by fire of action and cleansed by love and despair, is like the white, crystalline spermaceti wax which made Nantucket famous — a pure substance unlike any other.

Tradition and history are so closely allied that one cannot live without the aid of the other. We cannot handle them as we might the exact sciences, like mathematics or chemistry. There is no series of figures in tradition which we may check for accuracy or hold up as a proven sum. Tradition is like the devotion of a mother for her child, unfathomable and unlimited, and impossible to fully describe.

We who are privileged to live in Nantucket know that this island tradition is as strong as the tide and like the tide always returns. To analyze it would take a longer time than is available this afternoon and so I must give you merely what I feel are the highlights.

Old Ghosts and New Spirits

I once read an article on Nantucket in which the islanders were described as descendants of whaling masters. Somehow, I wish the writer could have met Charlie Brown Catheart, or Joe Fisher, or Peter Hoye — or some of the other ordinary sailor men that I knew as a child — and made the statement to them. I know what they would have said, but I can't repeat it here. What a ship-master might have remarked, I will never know as they were then all gone, but I do know they would have laughed heartily.

Yes, whaling is so strongly the mainstay of our tradition that no part of the one is without the other. But there were ordinary sailors as well as captains, coopers, and blacksmiths; as well as ship owners, clerks and longshoremen, as well as storekeepers, and there were mothers and sisters as well as fathers and brothers.

To find a way to trace the very origins of our tradition is to thread one's way back through the labyrinth of history. The ghosts of our ancestors — who linger in the shadows of the old houses, whose shapes suddenly appear in foggy patches in the lanes, whose voices are often heard in the surging of the surf, and the howling of the wind — would not like to be considered prim and proper heroines and heroes. They were living people

with the usual allotment of triumphs and defeats, success and failures. When they came as the first white settlers of this island, well out to sea, they never realized they were founders of a unique and lasting settlement which was to become a virtual kingdom in the sea.

The story of their first years, featured by the subsequent alignment of the family groups into divided political camps, set up the beginnings of the tradition. Can we forget Mary Coffin and think only of her father Tristram? Can we neglect Richard Pinkham and concentrate on John Gardner? Can we overlook Richard Swain and devote all our attention to Peter Folger? We cannot. They were equally the parents of the first generation of whalers and their initial struggles were as nothing as to their sons! It was the creation of the second generation which gave the delineation of the character of those ancestors of ours.

I could give you the full story of the whaling eras but that is not to be today. I have written it in "The Sea Hunters". But I must say we can do no better than cherish the whaling tradition as it is so much a part of our nation's past as well as Nantucket's. It brought wealth at a time when both country and island home needed it.

But before I leave it, let me remind you of the great contrasts in whaling: The necessity of the business — The excitement of the chase — The utter boredom of the cruises — The courage of officers and men — The unfeeling brutality of the treatment — The avarice of some owners and fairness of others — The rewards for service well done — Spectacular success — Dismal failure.

Captain Nicholson buried his child on one Pacific Island and saw his wife ashore at another, to return and find her dead. Lieut. Reuben Chase became a privateersman after he had been forced to become a spectator at the great sea battle of the "Bon Homme Richard" and "Serapis"; then adopted a packet captain's role before returning to invest in an island grocery.

What about those who went away — I could tell you of Richard Pinkham, a prisoner of war at Halifax; Obed Hussey, the whaleman blacksmith whose invention of that vital part made the reaper possible.

(Here Mr. Stackpole spoke of many other Nantucketers who made outstanding careers for themselves, both "on" and "off" island.—Ed.)

There Is a Tide

A few weeks ago I sat in a crowded theatre in New Bedford participating in the audience's share of the world premiere of the new motion picture "Moby Dick". Within a few minutes a deep suspicion became fact — the "Pequod" of this modern version of "Moby Dick" was sailing not from Nantucket but from New Bedford. The director had given the old ship a different home port.

It was like a problem in mathematics. Taking a wrong premise it was impossible for any producer to reach the right answer. Melville had selected Nantucket as the "Pequod's" home port for a basic reason and the whole significance of that was entirely lost.

If ever there was a written document of praise for Nantucket it is "Moby Dick", and yet, incredible as it was, the name "Nantucket" was not once mentioned in the entire picture. What of Starbuck — what of Ahab himself? How could such a staggering mistake occur? And yet, such a decision was made. Can we think of a dramatization of Greek history without mentioning Athens or Socrates? Can we visualize a picture of Trafalgar without the Victory or Nelson? Give the Hollywood boys time and they will again film the "Ten Commandments" and decide to use only five because the picture should only run two hours and a half.

If a natural claim to fame, so firmly established in an American classic, can be ignored by the experts, think of how quickly the lesser lights can despoil an island heritage!

If we learn nothing else from history we are struck by the fact of its essential continuity. The character which is the old town of Nantucket is founded in its simplicity and in its mellowness of age, and hovering over it is that heritage of the past.

Nantucket cannot remain static. A community which resists change is an insecure community. There are, after all, only two courses: First, to accept change and to adapt it to Nantucket traditions in a realistic and appropriate manner; secondly, to let things drift along, avoiding the obvious and be suddenly overwhelmed with it. By the first course we may evolve the adaptation through the democratic processes of law, by the second, we invite disaster.

The passage of the "Historic Districts" bill was a major step.

But, with the functioning of the Historic Districts Committee, we cannot sit back and become complacent. By so doing we would look only inward and survey, as it were, a walled town. We cannot turn our backs to what is going on behind us on the other side of the wall. Nantucket's waterfront is too much a part of its history to be relegated to the millstones of so-called progress. These wharves and streets have survived storms, fires, and depression but they cannot cope with that tyrant called "progress". The town once turned its back on an opportunity to preserve one major portion. I hope this will never happen again. There is no substitute for public support. Let the average person know and then appeal to him for help. The true economy of Nantucket is not a matter of new steamboats or new airplanes, neither is it a question of new ramps for old wharves — it is the faith of Nantucketers in Nantucket and the willingness of islanders to invest in that kind of future we earnestly believe is best for this island town.

It is one thing to protect the outward while letting the inner force disintegrate. We can do no better than paraphrase a classic utterance — We cannot consecrate or dedicate Nantucket. The brave men and women who gave it to us as a heritage have consecrated it far beyond our power to add or detract. Once we lose the full significance of this heritage we also lose the value of preserving the physical evidences. But I know that we will not lose it so long as we mind the admonition of a devoted American:

... that in this place there has been collected the wisdom, the patriotism, the devotion to principle, from which sprang the institution under which we now live."

As the repository of the outward manifestation of this rugged simplicity of our great heritage we have the old town of Nantucket, which glows with the reflection of an "inner light".

As the guardians of that "inner light", which contains the hopes and fears, the triumphs and defeats, the successes and the depressions, of our great heritage we have only ourselves. My friends, let us accept that challenge!

Nantucket Historical Association

INFORMAL TALKS

at the

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Fair Street

The third talk will be held

TUESDAY, JULY 24 at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Miss Helen Winslow

Subject: "The Nantucket Forty-niners".

A cordial invitation to attend the talks is extended by the Association.

ADMISSION FREE

Nantucket's "Forty-Niners" Subject of Historical Talk.

Miss Helen Winslow gave the third informal talk sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association at the Friends Meeting House last Tuesday, an interesting and entertaining description of the hardships and adventures of the Nantucketers who participated in the California gold rush of 1849. The Islanders of that day were accustomed to traveling great distances in search of wealth in the form of whale oil and it was therefore quite in character for them to embark on the six months voyage around Cape Horn to San Francisco.

Over 600 men left Nantucket for the gold fields, mostly by sea although a few went by the overland trails. In some instances a group of these pioneers formed an association for a joint venture with elaborate rules for dividing the work, and gold, when found, and for the election of a director of the company with broad powers of management and discipline.

Miss Winslow read the rules of such a band of gold seekers who sailed from Nantucket on the ship "*Henry Astor*" in May 1849. She also read from the diary of James M. Bunker who sailed with a similar group on the ship "*Aurora*" in January of the same year. Over thirty ships sailed from Nantucket for San Francisco and many more sailed from other New England sea ports. The voyages were often stormy, the food bad, the drinking water scarce. Miss Winslow read some entertaining verses composed by a sailor poet graphically describing these hardships.

The talk next Tuesday will be given by Mr. Charles Clark Coffin on the subject of the Nantucket Proprietary, describing the manner in which the early settlers divided the land.

**Rummaging Through an Attic
Described by Henry Carlisle.**

The fifth of the season's informal talks sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association was given on August 7th by Mr. Henry Coffin Carlisle, a descendant of a long line of seafaring Nantucket ancestors, who described many interesting "finds" in the attic of his family home at 75 Main Street. This house, constructed of brick and granite brought from the mainland, and with many rooms and ten fireplaces, was built in 1833 at a total cost of \$4200, as shown by an old account book found in the attic. It was one of seven houses built by Zenus Coffin for his sons and daughters.

Other papers found in the attic related to the voyages of the Coffin-owned ships. These ships made altogether over 80 whaling voyages, each lasting from two to six years, and brought great wealth in the form of sperm oil to the Island. Mr. Carlisle described interesting old maps found in the attic and commented on the great contribution made by the Nantucket whalers to geographical knowledge of the vast Pacific and Indian oceans. Many islands in these waters were first discovered and charted by the Nantucket sea captains.

After the last whaling voyage which terminated during the Civil War, Nantucketers tried many financial ventures in search of new prosperity. Mr. Carlisle showed some old stock certificates in companies long since forgotten. None of these ventures appears to have been the hoped-for bonanza, in the 1870's an attempt was made to start a land boom on Nantucket. Subdivisions were laid out and building lots plotted at Surfside, Madaket, Miacomet and other locations on the Island but few lots were sold and fewer houses were built. It was in connection with this effort that a large hotel was built at Surfside and the railroad was constructed from the Town to Surfside and later continued to Siasconset.

It was an informal sort of railroad and would stop to let passengers get off anywhere on the line to pick blueberries or beach plums and would pick them up on the return journey. One day, however, the conductor said the train could not make unscheduled stops on that day because the hard surfaced state road to Sconset had been completed and opened the day before and the train was then racing a man on a bicycle from Town to Sconset.

In conclusion Mr. Carlisle played a tape recording made by Dr. Will Gardner and Mr. Edouard Stackpole while rummaging with Mr. Carlisle in the famous attic.

The next talk on August 14 will be given by Mrs. Leroy H. True on the subject of Abiah Folger Franklin, the Nantucket-born mother of Benjamin Franklin.

Nantucket Historical Association

INFORMAL TALKS

at the

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE
Fair Street

The fourth talk will be held.

TUESDAY, JULY 31 at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Mr. C. Clark Coffin

Subject: "Nantucket Land and its Development".

A cordial invitation to attend the talks
is extended by the Association.

ADMISSION FREE

Nantucket Historical Association.

INFORMAL TALKS

at the

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE
Fair Street

The sixth talk will be held.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14 at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Mrs. Leroy H. True

Subject: Abiah Folger Franklin

A cordial invitation to attend the talks
is extended by the Association.

ADMISSION FREE

Nantucket Historical Association

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE

at

BENNETT HALL

Centre Street

by

Lt. Comdr. Dorothy E. Richards

to be given

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, at 8 p.m.

Subject: "Journey Through the Trust Territory
of the Pacific Islands"

ADMISSION: \$1.00

Nantucket Historical Association

INFORMAL TALKS

at the

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Fair Street

The seventh talk will be held

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28 at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Mr. Edouard A. Stackpole

Subject: "The American Sealers
and the Discovery of the Antarctic Continent"

A cordial invitation to attend the talks
is extended by the Association.

ADMISSION FREE

Informal Historical Talks Close With Popular "Ed" Stackpole.

The last of the season's informal talks sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association was given last Tuesday by Mr. Edouard A. Stackpole who told about the discovery of the Antarctic Continent by American sealers. So much has been written about the Nantucket whalers it is not generally known that, besides the whale fleet, Nantucket and other New England seaports sent a large number of ships to hunt for seals and bring back the valuable pelts. This industry, called the "skinning business", required an extremely adventurous type of combined explorer, sailor, and hunter since the vessels had to visit uncharted waters and land on un-

Exhibit of Nantucket Railroad Relics at Island Service Co.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Robert Deeley the Council of the Nantucket Historical Association held its October meeting at the offices of the Island Service Company. This enabled the members to view the fascinating collection of relics, documents and photographs relating to the Nantucket Railway, collected by Mr. Deely and now on exhibition at the Island Service Company. The railway which once connected the Town of Nantucket with Surfside and later with Siasconset is not only an interesting episode in the history of this Island but, as a means of transportation in many ways unique, it has a place in the story of all American railways and their development.

The exhibition is open to the public and should be visited by everyone who has an interest in the Nantucket of pre-motor car days or in that era of railroading.

TE. 1676

Philip Grant
Proprietors

Service

our own ashing boat.

Sundays

Line of seafoods.

terfish Mackrel Plaicefish

SHELLFISH

HS

ERS

STER POUND

DEALERS

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The first sealing grounds visited by the New England sealers were the Falkland Islands, but when the seals there were depleted—as many as 60,000 skins were taken on one voyage—the sealers went further, to the South Shetland Islands. In one season 18 American ships, 18 British and several from other countries were operating in that vicinity.

In the face of such competition and the threatened extinction of the seals, three New England ships sailed in 1820-21 into the unknown Arctic Ocean in search of new rookeries. These ships were the "Hero", Captain Nathaniel Palmer; the "Huron", Captain John Davis, and the "Huntress", Captain Christopher Burdick of Nantucket. All three of these ships sighted the tops of lofty mountains rising through the clouds, a part of the antarctic Continent, and so reported in their log books, but only the "Huron" landed a boat's crew on the continental ice shelf. The discovery and landing were made at the extreme northeast corner of Antarctica on what geographers later called the Palmer Peninsula in the belief that the original discovery was made by Captain Palmer and the ship "Hero". Only in 1947 did the finding of the log of the "Huron" show that the first actual landing was made from that ship, and the American claim to a part of the Antarctic Continent is based on that log, and the discovery is now credited to Captain Davis. However, Captain Burdick in the "Huntress" appears to have been the first to see the mountain tops, which he noted in his log with the comment that he "supposed" they were part of a new continent.

These sealing captains made valuable contributions to geographic knowledge and ran great risks in so doing. They were as truly pioneers of the ocean as their ancestors had been pioneers of New England and their contemporaries were pioneers of the Far West.

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The exhibition is open to the public and should be visited by everyone who has an interest in the Nantucket of pre-motor car days or in that era of railroading.

, OCTOBER 27, 1956

**Appropriate Celebration Asked
For Nantucket's 300th Birthday.**

An appropriate celebration of Nantucket's 300th birthday which falls on July 2, 1959, is recommended by the Nantucket Historical Association in the editorial of the October issue of its quarterly magazine, "Historic Nantucket". The editorial recommendation, which should be of interest to all Nantucketers, both members and non-members, is quoted in the following paragraphs:

"The 300th birthday of a town is an historic milestone especially when a town, county, and island, all in one, played in its early days a leading part in the growth of the country. Such is the case with Nantucket for July 2, 1959, will mark the 300th anniversary of the signing of the '30 pounds and two beaver hats' deed, by which Thomas Mayhew conveyed to the 'nine original purchasers' all right and interest by patent in the Island

"Many articles feature the Island's history for its whaling and the islanders as descendants of whaling masters. True in part but how many realize that these whaling masters in following the elusive whale were explorers of the oceans of the world, recording in their logbooks their discoveries of islands, lands, peoples, and even new ocean currents? Then there were the sealers who sailed into the unknown Antarctic discovering a new continent.

"How many realize that at one time Nantucket stood third in rank in Massachusetts with only Boston and Salem ahead in the field of commerce? Importing all its needs for its ships and exporting oil and candles to England and the Continent it played a major part in the trade of the Colonies. And who remembers that it was a Nantucket ship that first carried the Stars and Stripes into an English port after the Revolution? Many other Islanders played their part in the development of our country in scientific, religious, and other fields, to say nothing of their descendants who from all over the United States continue this contribution to our nation's prestige and growth.

"And so about a year ago your Council decided the year 1959 should be marked by an appropriate celebration in which the Association should take an active part, a celebration in which all island organizations should participate but a celebration dignified and in keeping with Island tradition and its historic past.

**Historical Association Exhibits
Augmented by Several Gifts.**

The Nantucket Historical Association has recently been the fortunate recipient of several interesting and valuable gifts which will be added to the exhibits at the Whaling Museum and the Fair Street Museum.

From Miss Margaret Folger, of Portland, Maine, the daughter of the late Admiral Folger, the Association has received a china bowl found on Pitcairn Island at the time of its discovery by the ship "Topaz". It is reasonable to assume that this bowl was part of the equipment of the ship "Bounty" and was carried ashore by the mutineers when they abandoned that vessel.

Also received from Miss Folger were a silver spoon made in Japan and ornamented with a replica of the "U.S.S. Kearsage" Commanded by Admiral Folger; a framed photograph of the "U.S.S. New Orleans" commanded by him during the Spanish-American war, and a silver loving cup presented by Admiral Higginson to Admiral Folger on the occasion of his second marriage. These items will be on display at the Fair Street Museum next summer.

The Nantucket Historical Association has also received as a gift from Mr. William H. Tripp of New Bedford, 50 bound volumes of Whalers' Shipping Lists. These documents cover the voyages of all whale-ships for a period of 52 years, from 1843 to 1895, and include not only Nantucket ships but those from all the American seaports from which whalers set sail.

These papers will be of great value to all who are interested in the old time whaling industry and in geological research. The books will be available for consultation and reference at the Whaling Museum during the months that it is open.

300th Anniversary Committee Holds Initial Meeting.

The first meeting of the Steering Committee for the observance in 1959 of the 300th year anniversary of the settlement of the Island by the white man was held on April 12. The following organizations were represented: The Nantucket Historical Association, which is the sponsoring organization, the Board of Selectmen, the town Finance Committee, the Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Fishermen's Association, the Parent-Teacher Association, and the Public Relations Committee. Other interested organizations will be asked to appoint representatives to the committee.

George W. Jones, President of the Historical Association, presided. He reminded those present that approval of the anniversary recognition was given at the Town Meeting in February and that also the Town voted \$5,000 "for the promotion of the 300th year Anniversary of the settlement of the island by the white man."

Mr. Jones emphasized the fact that an overall program such as might be finally approved was not "any one-man proposition". It will call for work and cooperation from all active organizations on the island and from many, many individuals, if such a program were to be an unqualified success and accomplish its broad purpose.

Two points were emphasized in the preliminary discussions, one being that regardless of the program to be approved, Nantucket is fortunate in having preserved its authentic and historic background and is not a reconstructed site as are so many historical places of interest. As one member of the committee said: "Our stage is set. What we need is the program and cast and above all a working organization that will be representative of the entire island."

While many suggestions were offered for consideration, nevertheless it was recognized that the committee wants ideas and suggestions from everybody and some of the old time customs of the Island might well be revived.

Secondly, considerable thought was given to the possible starting date of any anniversary events and their duration. It was quite generally felt that the island facilities are pretty well filled in July and August. If major events could be staged in June and September, the island would be in better shape to care for the incoming anniversary visitors particularly those who might wish to browse around quietly and get to know the island from a purely historical and educational angle.

Before adjournment of the meeting it was suggested that each member report back to his own organization and then be prepared to present further views at the next meeting of the Steering Committee called for April 26.

BY YOU FOR 12 TERMS
EFFICE DESERVE ANOTHER
DENCE WULD COUNT FOR THE
JUGKET'S HISTORY

OCTOBER 27, 1956

Appropriate Celebration Asked For Nantucket's 300th Birthday.

An appropriate celebration of Nantucket's 300th birthday which falls on July 2, 1959, is recommended by the Nantucket Historical Association in the editorial of the October issue of its quarterly magazine, "Historic Nantucket". The editorial recommendation, which should be of interest to all Nantucketers, both members and non-members, is quoted in the following paragraphs:

"The 300th birthday of a town is an historic milestone especially when a town, county, and island, all in one, played in its early days a leading part in the growth of the country. Such is the case with Nantucket for July 2, 1959, will mark the 300th anniversary of the signing of the '30 pounds and two beaver hats' deed, by which Thomas Mayhew conveyed to the 'nine original purchasers' all right and interest by patent in the Island.

"Many articles feature the Island's history for its whaling and the islanders as descendants of whaling masters. True in part but how many realize that these whaling masters in following the elusive whale were explorers of the oceans of the world, recording in their logbooks their discoveries of islands, lands, peoples, and even new ocean currents? Then there were the sealers who sailed into the unknown Antarctic discovering a new continent.

"How many realize that at one time Nantucket stood third in rank in Massachusetts with only Boston and Salem ahead in the field of commerce? Importing all its needs for its ships and exporting oil and candles to England and the Continent it played a major part in the trade of the Colonies. And who remembers that it was a Nantucket ship that first carried the Stars and Stripes into an English port after the Revolution? Many other Islanders played their part in the development of our country in scientific, religious, and other fields, to say nothing of their descendants who from all over the United States continue this contribution to our nation's prestige and growth.

"And so about a year ago your Council decided the year 1959 should be marked by an appropriate celebration in which the Association should take an active part, a celebration in which all island organizations should participate but a celebration dignified and in keeping with Island tradition and its historic past.

"We therefore welcome the Board of Selectmen's suggestion that preparations be started without delay for such a celebration. We know that our members will do their share to make this occasion not only a local and state but a nation-wide event and an answer to 'The Challenge of an Island Heritage' so ably presented by Edouard Stackpole at our Annual Meeting, and to quote the words of Colonial Williamsburg 'that the future may learn from the past'."

The October issue of "Historic Nantucket" also present the report of the Association's Annual Meeting, including former President Edouard A. Stackpole's address "The Challenge of Our Island Heritage". Melville's "Moby Dick", now much in the public mind, is the subject of an interesting article "Moody Ahab and His Heaven-Insulting Purpose" written by a new contributor, A. Stuart Pitt, Professor, Department of English, History, and Government, U. S. Naval Academy. Everett U. Crosby contributes an article on Colonel Joseph C. Hart, of whom little is known but who wrote the widely read book "Miriam Coffin", which is of special interest as "Historic Nantucket" is currently presenting the Diary of Keziah Coffin Fanning whose mother, Keziah Folger Coffin, is depicted as "Miriam" by Colonel Hart in his book.

Historical Association Exhibits Augmented by Several Gifts.

The Nantucket Historical Association has recently been the fortunate recipient of several interesting and valuable gifts which will be added to the exhibits at the Whaling Museum and the Fair Street Museum.

From Miss Margaret Folger, of Portland, Maine, the daughter of the late Admiral Folger, the Association has received a china bowl found on Pitcairn Island at the time of its discovery by the ship "Topaz". It is reasonable to assume that this bowl was part of the equipment of the ship "Bounty" and was carried ashore by the mutineers when they abandoned that vessel.

Also received from Miss Folger were a silver spoon made in Japan and ornamented with a replica of the "U.S.S. Kearsage" Commanded by Admiral Folger; a framed photograph of the "U.S.S. New Orleans" commanded by him during the Spanish-American war, and a silver loving cup presented by Admiral Higginson to Admiral Folger on the occasion of his second marriage. These items will be on display at the Fair Street Museum next summer.

The Nantucket Historical Association has also received as a gift from Mr. William H. Tripp of New Bedford, 50 bound volumes of Whalers' Shipping Lists. These documents cover the voyages of all whalers for a period of 52 years, from 1843 to 1895, and include not only Nantucket ships but those from all the American seaports from which whalers set sail.

These papers will be of great value to all who are interested in the old time whaling industry and in genealogical research. The books will be available for consultation and reference at the Whaling Museum during the months that it is open.

300th Anniversary Committee Holds Initial Meeting.

The first meeting of the Steering Committee for the observance in 1959 of the 300th year anniversary of the settlement of the Island by the white man was held on April 12. The following organizations were represented: The Nantucket Historical Association, which is the sponsoring organization, the Board of Selectmen, the town Finance Committee, the Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Fishermen's Association, the Parent-Teacher Association, and the Public Relations Committee. Other interested organizations will be asked to appoint representatives to the committee.

George W. Jones, President of the Historical Association, presided. He reminded those present that approval of the anniversary recognition was given at the Town Meeting in February and that also the Town voted \$5,000 "for the promotion of the 300th year Anniversary of the settlement of the island by the white man."

Mr. Jones emphasized the fact that an overall program such as might be finally approved was not "any one-man proposition". It will call for work and cooperation from all active organizations on the island and from many, many individuals, if such a program were to be an unqualified success and accomplish its broad purpose.

Two points were emphasized in the preliminary discussions, one being that regardless of the program to be approved, Nantucket is fortunate in having preserved its authentic and historic background and is not a reconstructed site as are so many historical places of interest. As one member of the committee said: "Our stage is set. What we need is the program and cast and above all a working organization that will be representative of the entire island."

While many suggestions were offered for consideration, nevertheless it was recognized that the committee wants ideas and suggestions from everybody and some of the old time customs of the Island might well be revived.

Secondly, considerable thought was given to the possible starting date of any anniversary events and their duration. It was quite generally felt that the island facilities are pretty well filled in July and August. If major events could be staged in June and September, the island would be in better shape to care for the incoming anniversary visitors particularly those who might wish to browse around quietly and get to know the island from a purely historical and educational angle.

Before adjournment of the meeting it was suggested that each member report back to his own organization and then be prepared to present further views at the next meeting of the Steering Committee called for April 26.

**Nantucket Historical Association
Announces History Awards.**

The Competition for the Nantucket Historical Association's two Annual Local History Awards resulted in three essays being selected by the High School and five summaries of Nantucket History by the Vocational School for submission to the Association's Award Committee composed of Mrs. George Jones, Mrs. Joseph King and W. Ripley Nelson.

The essay "Railroads in Nantucket" by Sandra Fee was awarded the High School prize. The summary of Nantucket History by Frederick Chase was awarded the Vocational School prize. The Awards are two handsomely engrossed certificates bearing the name of the winner and a description of the nature of the award. The certificates, in gold frames, were presented at the school commencement exercises.

The other two essays selected by the High School for consideration were written by Betty Gomes on "The Camels" and by Betty Perry on "Quaker Meeting Houses." The four other summaries of Nantucket history selected by the Vocational School for consideration were written by Richard Minstrell, Lionel Starr, Everett Reith and Albert Ottison.

To further stimulate the interest of the High School and Vocational School students in local history, the Council of the Association decided at a regular meeting held May 21, 1957 to award to each student whose essay or summary of history was selected for consideration by the committee for the prize awards, one year's free membership in the Association. Letters to this effect have been written by George W. Jones, President, to the eight aforementioned students welcoming them as members of the Association. Those memberships entitle them to free admission to the Association's buildings and museums, to receive the quarterly magazine, "Historic Nantucket," and to participate in the general activities of the Association.

Exhibits Open Tomorrow.

The Historical Museum and Friends Meeting House on Fair Street will open for the season on Sunday, June 9, 1957. The hours on Sunday are from 2 to 5 p.m., and on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Dr. Will Gardner First Speaker
At Opening Informal Talk Series.**

Dr. Will Gardner, who will give the first of the season's informal talks sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association has given many delightful talks about the people and history of Nantucket, subjects on which he is a leading authority. He is also the author of several books on Nantucketers including "Three Bricks and Three Brothers" about the Starbuck family; "The Coffin Saga" concerning that remarkable family; and his latest—"The Clock That Talks," describing Walter Folger and his marvelous clock, which is now on display at the Fair Street Museum. Dr. Gardner's talk next Tuesday on "Humorous Stories of Nantucketers" should be a real treat.

Nantucket Historical Association

will conduct
the fourth series of
INFORMAL TALKS
this summer at the
FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Fair Street

The first talk will be held
TUESDAY, JULY 9, at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Will Gardner

Subject: Humorous Stories of Nantucketers

A cordial invitation to attend the talks
is extended by the Association.

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The second talk will be held
TUESDAY, JULY 23, at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Mr. William Perkins

Subject: History of the Nantucket Schools

A cordial invitation to attend the talks
is extended by the Association.

ADMISSION FREE

British Version of Founding of Milford Haven, Wales, by Nantucketers Explained by London Times Article

Friends Found an Oil Port

The Romantic History of a Pembrokeshire Haven

"Tell me how Wales was made so happy as to inherit such a haven," said Shakespeare, speaking of Milford long ago; and the haven, though no more a placid creek with villages along its banks, is still beautiful and peaceful. It is, indeed, one of those ancient places which, owing to some allusion in poem, history, or fiction, though small and insignificant in space or time, are securely fixed in the country of the spirit.

Built of prosaic brick, the town faces a magnificent expanse of blue water, its streets a little tame and drab, but its sea-promenade a fine stretch of road where the stranger may walk either to the ancient inn (which Nelson visited) or else may visit the lighthouse and hear a very ancient and historic tale. For it was near the lighthouse that Henry, Earl of Richmond, the first of England's Tudor Kings, returning from exile in Brittany, landed to claim the crown.

Milford was a tiny village in those days. The town was really founded in the year 1793 by enterprising Quaker fishermen from Nantucket Island. Men who spent their years chasing the whale or taming the uncultivated earth of their island home.

Thinking of them the stranger visiting Milford may walk up the town to see the old Meeting House which still stands back in a quiet street. It is a simple, well-lit room, furnished with an oak rostrum and a few narrow benches. Trees wave outside the windows, for there is a high-walled, leafy yard where you may see, half buried in grass, headstones bearing the initials of Grandmother Abigail Starbuck and her husband Samuel, as well as many others—Folgers, Colemans, Mayhews, whose names still linger.

East Anglian Origin

Their story is an heroic one. Edward Starbuck, a leading Friend in East Anglia, tired of persecution, had set sail with his family from this country in an open boat in 1651, hoping to find liberty of conscience in the New World. They landed in New England, settled, and were joined by other Friends. Becoming whale-fishers, they prospered greatly and built themselves a town. But later their unorthodox views about baptism made them once more a target for persecution and they were compelled to move.

So they sailed off again and came to Nantucket Island. Here they landed, made friends with the Indian Chief Sakan, purchased part of the island, and, having built a second town, busied themselves with trades and agriculture as well as whale hunting. Soon they were exporting their whale oil to light the lamps in London streets.

Nearly a hundred years passed peaceably. Then came the rude alarm of war and the revolt of the American colonists. Nantucket remained neutral, but the whaling ships could not sail to Britain and the little community, which was loyal to the old country, saw itself pillaged and plundered on every side.

After petitioning the authorities of both parties for protection and finding none, they resolved to move once more. And this time they chose Nova Scotia, still under British rule, as their refuge. But all was to no purpose. Enemies of various kinds attacked them and the little town they had built was soon in dire distress, for their oil was no contraband of war and could not be sent to their agents in London, nor could their schooners venture out to sea.

So this small body of Quakers, unable either to remain in Nova Scotia or return to Nantucket, and with thousands of gallons of oil on their hands, held a solemn meeting. There they de-

cided to send a deputy to the Old Country. He was Samuel Starbuck, great-grandson of the pioneer. How or why we do not know, but this young man met Charles Francis Greville, nephew of Sir William Hamilton.

Greville had a dream project. Visiting his uncle's estates, which lay along the edge of the sea in Pembrokeshire, he had been struck by the idea of converting the quiet creeks at the adjoining villages of Milford and Nangle (where the lighthouse now stands) into a great harbor for deep-water vessels: in fact, of turning the little fishing villages into a naval base. His uncle had mentioned the matter to members of the Government and all concerned were agreeable.

Valiant Whalers

One problem remained—who should do the work? And then someone brought him news of the valiant Nantucket whalers whose envoy was in town and whose skill and workmanship had brought them renown in the late American colony. He invited Samuel to "take a bit of mutton" with him at his house on the north side of Paddington Green.

Samuel accepted the invitation and, before the meal was over, had agreed to return at once to Nova Scotia and offer the community of Friends sheltering there the work of building a port which might become the center for their business as whale fishers. All expenses were to be borne by the British Government, which was soon warmly interested.

The whalers accepted the offer and, having made a few wise provisos, set sail. The men, to the number of 182, came in their 13 schooners, while the women and children were brought over in British vessels. They arrived at Milford in the autumn of 1793 and were housed in neighboring mansions.

Greville, in the meanwhile, had arranged with Sir William Hamilton and others to have artisans ready and bricks, timber, and stone upon the spot so that building could begin forthwith. Quays were the first thing constructed, then an inn, then docks, and, lastly, houses and a meeting house.

New York Pattern

Having good craftsmen among them and experience in building (this was their fourth town) they soon set up workshops and began the present Milford Haven, which was planned after the pattern of New Amsterdam, now New York. You may see the nucleus of the idea to this day in the three straight streets running parallel to the waterfront, joined by three short streets at right angles. It was not a good plan for the site on the cliff, because the short streets had to climb up at gradients which daunt even a modern motor car. The long streets have now changed their names, but were originally called Front, Middle, and Back Street.

Greville remained a staunch Friend, jeopardizing his own fortune for the advancement of the scheme. His reputation in after days was dubious but his letters to the Quakers show how far more attractive a character he was than has been supposed. He reaped no personal benefit from his disinterested efforts, but had the happiness of seeing the town grow and thrive. The community went on whaling for another 50 years because, as one of them said, it brought "a vast quantity of coin drawn from the bottom of the great deep."

Milford Haven is a much larger place today and it appears likely that in days to come tall derricks, tankers, and pipe-lines will appear upon its edges. Filled, this time, with oil taken from the depths of the earth and just as eagerly welcomed.

(The above article is taken in its entirety from the Jan. 25, 1957, edition of The London Times.—Ed.)

B.B.C. Sent Nantucket Greetings From Milford Haven, Wales.

A description of the founding of the town of Milford Haven, Wales, was broadcast over the British Broadcasting Company Overseas Service this week, and was received here quite satisfactorily. The program, entitled "The Welsh Magazine" was broadcast on Wednesday and again on Thursday over the B.B.C. short wave radio network.

The speaker was Mr. Arthur H. Jackson, Deputy Clerk of the Urban District Council of the Township of Milford Haven, who with his wife paid a visit to Nantucket last summer. His description of the founding of the town by Nantucket Quakers, his visit to our island, and the return visit to Milford Haven by Mr. and Mrs. George W. Jones was broadcast substantially as follows:

Although there are a number of places in the British Isles which can claim to have some connection with the United States of America, few towns, if any, can claim the same distinction as the Town of Milford Haven in Pembrokeshire. It was to these shores in 1793 that from the Island of Nantucket off the Massachusetts coast there came a colony of Quaker whalers, some 25 families in all, to settle the town and carry on the South Sea whaling. London was the chief market for their sperm whale oil, where it was used for the street lighting and these Quakers had been trying for some time to find a new center for their whaling activities.

One of the leading merchants came to Britain to discuss terms with representatives of the government and to make a survey of possible ports, but in view of the many difficulties and delays which were encountered, he contacted the French government and as a result the business was established at Dunkirk. Others of them left Nantucket and set up the industry at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, but they did not find this entirely satisfactory.

When the opportunity came to transfer to Milford Haven, however, no time was lost and the whaling industry was established. These intrepid people came to Milford Haven at the invitation of Charles Francis Greville, nephew of Sir William Hamilton, and with the backing of the British government. Sir William Hamilton had obtained an act of Parliament in 1790 which enabled him, his heirs and assigns, to make and provide quays, piers, docks, and other erections, and to establish a market with proper roads and avenues thereto respectively.

The Quakers built a church, hotel, a brewery, freight house, and dwelling houses and appellate evidence is available of their presence here, in the various buildings, such as Priory Lodge, the home of Samuel Starbuck, one of the leaders of the Quaker settlers. There can also be seen just below Hamilton Terrace the arched roofs of the vaults which run under the road and which were formerly used as stores for the whale oil. There is also a Quaker meeting house which was built by the first settlers, most of whom now lie at rest in its graveyard.

Unfortunately, none of the original names seem to have been preserved, except perhaps that of Rotch, the spelling of which has been reduced to Roch. The Starbuck and the Folgers, who were prominent among the settlers, seem to have died out, but the memory of some of them and of their island home of Nantucket is perpetuated in the town by such names as Starbuck Road, Dartmouth Street, and Nantucket Avenue.

A few years ago, Mrs. Rozelle Coleman Jones, a direct descendant of Abiel Coleman, the wife of Timothy Folger, one of the first settlers, found in the attic of her home overlooking the beautiful harbor of Nantucket, a diary written by her ancestor, covering the period from 1805 to 1811 when she was in Milford Haven.

In July last year my wife and I were privileged to visit the Island of Nantucket where we stayed for five wonderful days with Miss Margaret Harwood, the 71 year old astronomer in charge of the Maria Mitchell Observatory. We had the pleasure of conveying to the Nantucket Historical Association greetings from the Town of Milford Haven bearing the township seal, a carved Welsh love spoon also bearing the crest of the council, and a copy of the genealogical table of the original Nantucket settlers which runs from 1615 to 1821.

Later in the year my wife and I were privileged to receive into our home Mrs. Rozelle Coleman Jones and her husband, Mr. George Jones, who shortly after our visit to Nan-

tucket was elected president of the Historical Association.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Jones, Miss Margaret Harwood, Dr. and Mrs. Burnham N. Dell, Miss Marjorie Weirich, Mrs. Nancy Adams, the Rev. William E. Gardner, Mrs. Ralston, Mr. and Mrs. Leeds Mitchell, and the host of other wonderful friends we made during our stay, I would extend warmest greetings from my wife and myself, and express the hope that the bond between the two towns may be strengthened and perpetuated by increasing numbers of exchange visits.

The Walter Folger Clock.

The famous Walter Folger Clock, which has been idling in the Fair Street Museum of the Nantucket Historical Association since last summer, has been set going and is back at work, indicating for the information of all Nantucketers and visitors the day, years, and century; rising and setting of the sun and moon, and the tides in Nantucket Harbor.

The intricate scientific job of getting the clock in step with nature was accomplished by our reincarnation of Walter Folger, the President of the Nantucket Historical Association, Mr. George W. Jones, with an assist from the "Nautical Almanac."

Unfortunately, Mr. Jones was unable to get the clock to predict rain.

Nantucket Schools Subject Of Historical Talk.

The second in a series of free informal talks under the auspices of the Nantucket Historical Association was given last Tuesday afternoon at the Friends Meeting House on Fair Street. The speaker was Mr. William Perkins; his subject, "The History of Nantucket Schools."

Mr. Perkins has explored the educational by-ways of the island — in classroom, library, and graveyard — uncovering, as he said, "great deeds humbly done and simple deeds greatly performed."

When Nantucket was first settled, three major Education Laws were on the State books. With characteristic independence the island ignored them and created her own system of schooling in the home. In 1690, her first teacher on record, Ichabod Paddock, appears; his subject, "the killing of whales and extraction of their oil." Gradually the island was passing from what Mr. Perkins termed the "domestic" to the "private" period of education.

A widow or spinster in straitened circumstances would set up a "dame school"—little more than a baby-sitting establishment and there, as the English verse had it, "she sits and awes some thirty infants as she knits." Clergymen, on the lookout for extra income, mariners obsessed with Nantucket's nautical future, Coffins anxious to perpetuate a name, established their own schools. On the brig "Cleo" young boys, with the gilt scroll "Nantucket School" on their blue caps, learned seamanship on arduous treks to Quebec and the Rio Grande. And there were the Charity Schools, for lack of fire open only during the warm months, and one of them christened the "Fragment School" after the scraps it received in answer to an appeal to clothe its students.

The long period during which Nantucket set up her own free schools, Mr. Perkins calls the "most spectacular." Samuel H. Jenks, editor of "The Inquirer," crusaded for the schools through his newspaper columns and the town meetings. He was accused of "Boston notions"; but in 1827, 180 years after the first Massachusetts School Law, Nantucket had two public schools, one under William Mitchell at the corner of Main and Milk, and the other under Nathaniel Obed Barney. By 1844 there were 15 — in the north, south, and west parts of town and in Polpis, Sconset, and Tuckernuck.

The speaker's thesis was the steady progress of educational facilities and standards on the island. As principal of two of Nantucket's schools and thorough student of her history since his arrival here eight years ago, Mr. Perkins is his own best example.

D. de B.

Sixty-third Annual Meeting Of Historical Association.

The sixty-third annual meeting of the Nantucket Historical Association was held Tuesday, July 16, at the Kenneth Taylor Galleries.

George W. Jones, president, presided over the meeting and after welcoming the members gave a comprehensive report of the activities of the Association Council during the past year. In his report Mr. Jones said the Historical Association is in healthy condition, and he and the other Council members look forward to continued progress in future years.

The membership of the Nantucket Historical Association remains high, with 1,024 members, and President Jones was certain the excellent membership may be maintained and increased. He also spoke highly of the Association's publication "Historic Nantucket," which has been called one of the best of its kind in the New England area.

Mr. Jones reported the Oldest House had more than 4,000 visitors last year, but the Whaling Museum remains the most popular exhibit of the Association, attracting more than 18,000 paying visitors.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then held, Mrs. Roselle C. Jones reading the report of the nominating committee. The secretary was instructed to cast one ballot, and the following officers were declared elected:

President, George W. Jones; Vice-Presidents, Howard U. Chase, Everett U. Crosby, Burnham N. Dell, William E. Gardner, Stokeley W. Morgan, and W. Ripley Nelson; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Ethel Anderson; Auditor, Ormonde F. Ingall; Councillors, Osswell J. Small and Richard J. Porter.

President Jones then declared the business meeting at an end, and introduced the speaker of the afternoon, Mr. Edward J. Teran, who has been employed by the Selectmen as Director of Nantucket's 300th Birthday Celebration, to be held in the summer of 1959.

Beginning his talk, Mr. Teran made the positive statement that Nantucket's celebration would "not be a fiasco like that at Plymouth with the Mayflower."

Mr. Teran declared that since Nantucket has started two years in advance of its anniversary date, it will be possible to plan carefully so the celebration will be dignified and in keeping with the island's heritage. He then told of some of the plans which are being considered by the Steering Committee, and which may be incorporated into the celebration. The speaker said one plan is to bring to the island 15 or 20 horse-drawn carriages for the transportation of visi-

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Sixty-third Annual Meeting Of Historical Association.

Continued from Page One

tors about the island during the 1959 season. He felt these carriages would be extremely popular, particularly if they were routed to take visitors around to the various exhibits of the Historical Association. The possibility of having young people dressed in appropriate costume to act as guides has also been discussed, he said.

"We want to have this celebration on a high level," Mr. Teran said. "We don't want to just draw a lot of people to the island, but wish to bring people who are genuinely interested in what we have here." He said as much as possible the celebration would be keyed to bring visitors to Nantucket in June and September, as well as during the peak summer season. He also mentioned that the once popular "Antiques and Horribles" parade may be held on July 4.

Another plan on which work is progressing is having family reunions on the island during the 1959 season, and Mr. Teran mentioned the possibility of having the President of the United States come to the island during that summer. "Of course, if we couldn't get the President, we could invite the Governors of all 48 States to come," he smiled.

The speaker then displayed the emblem which the Steering Committee has adopted for the anniversary celebration, and said it will be used on signs and posters throughout the town, and local merchants will be urged to use it on their stationery. Automobile license plate insignia are being made and will be sold during the next two years.

One of the problems facing the 300th Birthday Committee is that 1959 is also the anniversary of the discovery of Lake Champlain, and a big celebration is being planned at the same time of year, Mr. Teran said.

Other plans for the celebration, such as commemorative postage stamps, "wooden nickels," and postal cancellations were also discussed by the speaker, who emphasized throughout his talk that the committee plans a celebration which will be dignified, with no carnival-type atmosphere such as has been found at other such observances.

Following Mr. Teran's talk, President Jones introduced Gordon Turner, who played a tape recording he made recently of a broadcast over the British Broadcasting Company. The broadcast concerned the connection between Milford Haven, Wales, and Nantucket, and the featured speaker was Mr. Arthur Jackson, Clerk of the District Council, who visited Nantucket last summer.

The first "informal talk" at the Quaker Meeting House this summer was attended by a capacity audience, who gathered to hear Dr. "Will" Gardner reminisce about Nantucketers of yesteryear. A tape recording was made of his talk by Mr. Henry C. Carlisle.

Friends Meeting House Jammed To Hear Will Gardner.

The Friends Meeting House on Fair Street was filled to overflowing last Tuesday afternoon, July 9th, when the Association's President, George Jones, presented Dr. Will Gardner to tell his "Humorous Stories of Nantucketers." The pews of "the elders" up front had been gingerly taken by latecomers. Even the umbrella stand was occupied.

Dr. Gardner, retired minister and teacher, 83-year-old author of several books on the island, and—most important of all—native Nantucketer, opened his lecture with a plea to historians for less emphasis upon the events and more upon the people of a community.

And the people of this community, to whom Dr. Gardner introduced his listeners on Tuesday afternoon, made the argument very valid indeed.

There was old Sarah Winslow, who on her first night in the hospital, remained adamantly sleepless until her buttonhook was fetched and put under her pillow. There was Mollie Starbuck in flowing white gown preparing her wild concoction of "a half-glass of cream, a half-glass of gingerale;" and the Nantucket spinster, caught darning her underdrawers by the visiting minister, who hid them beneath her apron and, when pressed as to what she was knitting, replied glibly "a decoration for my sitting room." There was Mr. Macy who proposed to Mrs. Macy in lengthy doggerel and Mrs. Macy who accepted "the annexation" with "maidenly agitation." There were Arthur Wyer and Charlie Selden, tying ropes across Broad Street to trip up a tuneless band, and putting conspicuous wads of bills into the collection plate (they were Confederate money).

Of Mr. Selden Dr. Gardner had several stories to tell. This Nantucketer, who became a reporter for "The New York Times" and eventually President of the Association of Foreign Correspondents, is the subject of a Memorial Scrapbook currently under preparation.

A few characteristics are common to all Nantucketers, Dr. Gardner explained; among them, a belief in oneself, a certain spitefulness, and a belief in Nantucket as the very center of the world. Perhaps the typical Nantucketer was that little boy in the Coffin School almost 75 years ago, whom Dr. and Mrs. Gardner remember well. During a Friday afternoon composition class he rose to read his paper on Napoleon. "Napoleon was a great soldier and a great statesman," said the boy, "but he was an off-islander."

D. de B.

Stackpole Talk on "Mutinies" At Friends Meeting House.

"Among men cooped up month after month elbow to elbow on a little ship violent upheaval is almost inevitable. . . . In every case of mutiny the forces which caused it seem to lie beyond the control of the mutineers themselves. . . . Although we cannot condone mutiny, I think we can sympathize with the mutineer." Last Tuesday afternoon Edouard A. Stackpole, former associate editor of *The Inquirer and Mirror*, and now Curator of the Marine Historical Association, Mystic Seaport, Mystic, Conn., told his audience at the Friends Meeting House stories of revolutions on board ship and of the men who caused them. The talk, "Mutinies and Men," was the fourth in a series sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association.

Mr. Stackpole's sure knowledge of the sea and sailors is evidenced not only in his present position but by six titles among his published works: "Smuggler's Luck," "You Fight for Treasure," "Madagascar Jack," "Privateer Ahoy," "Mutiny at Midnight," and "The Sea-Hunters." By exploring the human motives behind the adventures he relates, the speaker, as Mr. George W. Jones, President of the Association, suggested, "makes our ancestors our contemporaries."

"The most classic of mutinies was that on board the 'Globe.' A Nantucket whaleship, she had put in at the Hawaiian Islands mid-voyage in 1823 and there taken on six untrained crew members to replace deserters. On the night of January 26, 1824, the six "beachcombers" under the leadership of Samuel B. Comstock, boat-steerer, son of a Nantucket schoolmaster, suddenly seized control of the ship and went from cabin to cabin massacring the captain and mates. Among those frozen with horror and cowed into submission was the chief mutineer's 15-year-old brother. Later Comstock was killed while attempting to fit his followers into his private vision of a paradise kingdom in the Marshall Islands; and the Nantucket schoolmaster pondered the strange forces which could overnight so warp a mind and was dumbfounded: "O, Samuel, Samuel, heaven-forsaken Samuel!"

On board another Nantucket vessel, the "Planter," cruising off King-smith in 1849, Captain Isaac Hussey faced a rebellious crew on starvation rations and killed its ringleader with a single pistol shot. Perhaps his conscience hurt him, for he did not return with the ship and, docking it at Sydney, took over command of the schooner "William Penn." Here history repeated itself. Touching at the Caroline Islands, the ship took on mutinous natives and this time Captain Hussey hesitated—and lost his life.

Mr. Stackpole's stories included those of Captain Rogers of the "Beaver" who marooned a disgruntled sailor on a South Sea island and was exonerated in court for his act, of Captain Briggs of the "Shakespeare" who, in the face of an angry crew, leaped overboard, and of a case of "indirect mutiny . . . in the Shakespearean manner" — the slow poisoning of Captain Norton of the "Morning Star" by his steward.

The little-known tale of a curiously "modern" mutiny as told by a seafaring schoolteacher has been published by the Marine Historical Association at Mystic. It is Walter Hammond's "Mutiny on the Pedro Varela." "The mutiny on board the 'Pedro Varela' is the only one of its type yet uncovered in the history of whaling. . . . To accomplish their purpose, the men of the 'Pedro Varela' chose a method far different but more effective than open mutiny. During the darkness of a night watch they threw overboard many of the implements used on board ship—harpoons, lances, cooper's tools, bailers, skimmers, spades, and most important all the iron parts of the windlass. This put an end to further whaling insofar as that cruise was concerned and seriously interrupted the voyage."

To consider the hardships of long confinement in cramped quarters is to be surprised by the small number of recorded mutinies. Crews existed on vegetables "boiled for day . . . the peas so hard they had to be pulverized" and on water "slimy with growths." The revolt was usually an act of the moment when passions too long restrained suddenly erupted. Mr. Stackpole emphasized the volcanic spontaneity of the "average mutiny."

But there were, of course, exceptions. One of the best stories of pre-meditated mutiny concerned the cool and wily Cyrus Plummer who competently shot his way to command and proved himself in the subsequent court hearing more than equal to any lawyer who cross-examined him. The judge, "probably unfamiliar with seaboard life," handed down a sentence of only 20 years, which Plummer was able to commute to seven.

The mutiny to end mutinies in the U. S. Navy took place on board the "Somers," our first training ship, in 1842. One hundred twenty men were confined on a 103-foot vessel. Seven of them, including Philip Spencer, son of the Secretary of War, rebelled and were promptly punished by Commander Alexander Slidell MacKenzie—three by hanging and four by confinement to irons. For 40 days the captain stood trial until the historic decision by the court which exonerated him and defended the right of every American captain to full and absolute mastery over his vessel.

300th Birthday Auto Emblems Now on Sale.

Colorful auto emblems proclaiming Nantucket Island's 300th Birthday observance in 1959 were placed on sale this week by the Birthday Committee. The first one was purchased by Mrs. Charles G. Stackpole, who represents the Parent-Teacher Association on the committee. Mrs. Stackpole and her husband are planning a trip across the country for a California vacation in September, and their car will be among the first to spread the word through the west about Nantucket Island's coming birthday celebration.

Made of metal, the trademark emblem is designed to bolt onto auto license plates. It is produced in attractive colors simulating a compass with an outline of Nantucket Island and the date 1959 printed in the center. Circling the outer edge is the message: "Nantucket Island — 300th Birthday." The emblem is finished in "Auto-Glo" to reflect light.

Emblems may be purchased from Lincoln Lewis, who represents the American Legion on the Birthday Committee, or Albert E. Whitehill, committee secretary, at the Nantucket Island Chamber of Commerce office. All proceeds from the sale of these emblems will revert to the Town's general fund.

The third in the current series of informal talks, sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association, at the Friends Meeting House will feature Miss Mary Turlay Robinson. Miss Robinson will speak on August 13, her subject being "Sconset and Town with My Grandmother."

Nantucket Historical Association

is conducting
the fourth series of
INFORMAL TALKS
this summer at the
FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE
Fair Street

The third talk will be held
TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, at 3 p.m.

Speaker: Mary Turlay Robinson
Subject: "'Sconset and Town With My Grandmother'"

A cordial invitation to attend the talks
is extended by the Association.

ADMISSION FREE

"Days of My Grandmother" Described in Tuesday Talk.

"If Mary Turlay Robinson wasn't born on Nantucket, she came awfully close to it—arriving here at the age of 9 months," President George W. Jones told the Nantucket Historical Association in introducing her last Tuesday afternoon. Miss Robinson served as a member of the International Exchange Service to France in 1954. To counteract the Hollywood version of this country current over there, she selected as "a fine example of American life"—Nantucket. Last Tuesday she selected as an example of turn-of-the-century Island life "Sconset in the days of My Grandmother."

Mrs. Turlay's unpainted cottage (regretfully sold last autumn) stands on South Bluff. Wildness was once at its doorstep. Now firmly fastened down with rugosa, ivy and beach-plums, it was a problem then to keep the Bluff from washing out in the heavy rains. In the '80's today's highway was a grassy road with three ruts: two for wheels and one for horses.

Daily the butcher, grocer and fisherman came by to take orders and were back at noon with their wares. Mr. Levi Coffin, son of one of the town's most distinguished citizens, gave up a career in finance to sell vegetables: "I would rather be a farmer on Nantucket than a banker in Boston." And Henry Holmes went from house to house as odd-job-man. Miss Robinson remembers with a child's sharp vision Sam Pitman with "the bluest eyes in the world" and Billy Bowen, retired town crier, at the doorstep of his invitingly dark small house.

Two-wheeled carts going for kelp beyond the Bluff were a common sight and so was the fringed surrey. Speaking of transportation, the little Sconset railway was known to wait patiently for blueberry-pickers at choice spots.

"There was a great deal more fog in those days and vastly more snails." Miss Robinson remembers racing specimens of the latter from a private "stable" in a glass-topped box.

On moor drives to secret places the delicate pink flowers of the seabacia and the gloxinia-like blooms of the September gerardia could be gathered—as well as pink mallow, red lilies and white orchids. A year ago the last hiding-place of the white orchid was unwittingly bulldozed for the town dump.

In the speaker's childhood the Casino held weekly dances and morning musicales. Some of the boats took on chartered parties and box-lunches, and looking back, one would see the beach dotted with little tents instead of the modern umbrellas.

"Sconset was peace, quiet, fresh air, beach and a sprinkling of interesting people. There was no Elvis Presley." But at the turn-of-the-century an Actors' Colony had settled in the town. Miss Robinson remembers beach walks with Isabel Irving and an afternoon visit with Lillian Russell. The actress wore a pink suit with velvet collar and a black velvet hat. "I hope you're working for Women's Suffrage," she said, taking a positive puff on her cigar.

In 1917 "the whole system of life changed." The little train was scrapped, the tracks went to France and automobiles came. But the bare shingled houses were still inspiring poets like Bliss Carmen.

Miss Mary Turlay Robinson is donating a china doll named Rosalind, once the property of Mary Turlay, to the Historical Association. Last Tuesday she gave her audience at the Quaker Meeting House a less tangible—but no less delightful—glimpse of old Sconset.

D. de B.

Whaling Museum Has 20,000th Visitor This Season.

At 12:35 p.m. Thursday, October 3, 1957, two couples walked into the Whaling Museum. As Mrs. Foye, the receptionist, greeted them, she asked the second man of the party his name and then, much to his surprise, congratulated him on being the 20,000th person to pay admission into the Whaling Museum this summer.

The visitor, Mr. Roland R. Read of Morristown, N. J., was then presented with an inscribed copy of the Whaling Museum booklet. The inscription read: "To the Twenty Thousandth Paid Admission in 1957—The Largest Seasonal Paid Attendance in the History of the Whaling Museum". The inscription was signed by Mr. W. Ripley Nelson, vice-president of the Nantucket Historical Association in charge of the Whaling Museum.

Mr. and Mrs. Read were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Thorman, of Winnetka, Illinois on their visit to the museum. As it happened, Mr. Thorman had paid for Mr. Read's admission and when he jokingly pointed out this fact, all members of the party were given complimentary copies of the booklet, but Mr. Read was careful to retain his inscribed copy.

Advertising Representative Met With 300th Birthday Committee.

At a meeting of the 300th Birthday celebration steering committee held last Monday, Mrs. Marie Cloud, Boston representative of Newsome and Co., the public relations concern handling the account, was present. George W. Jones, chairman of the committee, reported that he is working on the plan for Girl Scouts to act as guides for tourists during the summer of 1959. Mr. Jones also read a letter from Representative Mooney, officially stating that there will be no State funds available for the local celebration.

Forty letters have been sent out, inviting the top management of large New England Companies to hold meetings on the island in the summer of 1958 and 1959. The addresses were furnished by Mrs. Cloud, who brought with her another list to which similar letters will be addressed. Several replies to the first mailing have been received, and were read by Mr. Jones.

The committee decided Mrs. Charles Stackpole should contact the various parties with reference to obtaining horses and carriages for the 1959 season, and give them the opportunity to operate for their own profit, without any subsidy from the town. If no one on the island is interested in this proposition, others on the mainland will be contacted.

Mr. Jones advised that the house "Ship Ahoy" at the end of Old South Wharf has been offered by Mr. Robert Deeley of the Island Service Co. to Newsome and Co. for the use of radio, TV, newspaper and magazine people while on the island in connection with Nantucket's birthday year. Arrangements are to be made by Robert Caldwell and Mrs. Cloud to provide the necessary facilities and service.

Mrs. Cloud reported that Mr. Frank Tooke, general manager of WBZ-TV, is planning to spend some time on the island in August to see if plans can be made to have live TV programming from the island during the week of July 2, 1959. Mrs. Cloud also stated that Mrs. Myrna Johnson, of "Better Homes and Gardens" magazine, and Stanley Barrens, bureau manager of the United Press, will also come to the island to gather material.

David Little, Elizabeth Saltonstall, and Dorothy Adlow have all accepted an invitation to act as a Board of Directors in the matter of a traveling art exhibit. Mrs. Cloud reported that she has personally contacted the directors of four New England museums, and said they were highly enthusiastic about the project and would be much interested in having such a collection to show. Mrs. Cloud also stated that she contacted Northeast Airlines, upon suggestion of Mrs. Robert Young, and that Northeast has agreed to provide space at its facilities and terminals from Montreal to Miami and at Washington, D. C., for an exhibit centered on local arts and crafts.

Mrs. Cloud also gave a report concerning Mrs. Ruth Ley's trip to Brussels, Belgium, and her lecture at the World's Fair, where she showed her motion picture on Nantucket "Island of the Whalers." Mrs. Cloud has also offered to take over the entire files of descendants of Nantucket first families, and will try to find one per-

son of each family to take charge of the reunions.

An organization chart of committees, both general and specific, was presented for the comments and suggestions of the Steering Committee. A copy of the chart is to be sent to each member of the committee, and suggestions or amendments are to be sent to Mr. Jones before the next meeting, which has been tentatively set up for the third week in July.

Two designs for a sign advertising the 300th Birthday, to be posted at the wharf and at the airport, were approved. Mr. Robert A. Hardy is to take care of the matter of having the signs made and erected.

It is the wish of the Steering Committee and the Paul Newsome Co. that Nantucket's summer people be advised and kept posted on the plans of the celebration committee. All concerned wish to assure everyone that the celebration will be kept in the tradition of the island, with no loss of dignity, and with no carnival atmosphere. Mr. George Jones, chairman of the Steering Committee, and Mr. John Golden, secretary, will be glad to talk with anyone at any time and outline the plans for the present and future.

Tristram Coffin Descendants Plan 1959 Reunion.

Meeting of the descendants of Tristram Coffin was held on Monday evening at 7:30 in the Island Service Company's office.

Fourteen Coffin descendants were present and George Jones and Robert Caldwell, members of the Tercentenary Steering Committee. Robert Caldwell, chairman of the family reunions project, presided and explained the purpose of the meeting, mainly to elect a chairman and choose a committee to plan a Coffin family reunion as part of the 1959 Tercentenary Celebration.

Mrs. James Duffy (Isabel Worth) was elected general chairman with the following as members of the planning committee: Jane Lamb, Clark Coffin, Errol Coffin, Richard Coffin, and Richard Everett.

The members present voted to set the second week of July—Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (July 9, 10, 11), 1959—as the reunion dates.

One member present, Mrs. Mary Ditmars, 91 years old, told the group that she had been present at the 1881 reunion.

1958 Annual Winter Gam Held at Maria Mitchell.

On Friday evening, February 28, 1958, more than 60 persons gathered in the Maria Mitchell Library on Vestal Street to attend the ninth "Gam" presented by the Nantucket Historical Association. Dr. Will E. Gardner, beloved by all Nantucketers, old and young alike, and by those "off-islanders" who have had the privilege of his acquaintance, presided over this Gam in his inimitable manner as he did over the Historical Association's first Gam which was held in 1943.

Introduced by the president of the Association, Mr. George W. Jones, Dr. Gardner said if one searches the dictionary for a meaning of the word "Gam" its origin is uncertain and meaning vague, but his grandfather told him, when he was very young, that "Gam" was derived from the gamboling of the whale in the South Pacific; hence a gam was talking (or frisking) of whales! The whales were doubtless courting and here at the gam we court tales of the whaling days. Thus the meeting opened in a happy mood as Dr. Gardner stood before a table loaded with well-wrapped mystery packages which he had requested all those interested to bring. More than 25 persons did bring a prize possession with a historical legend.

Opening the first small box, Dr. Gardner held up to view the beautiful

Continued on Page Three

1958 Annual Winter Gam Held at Maria Mitchell.

Continued from Page One

lustre ware pitcher which his grandmother, Mary Hussey Gardner, had set out on the front steps each morning, with a two-cent piece carefully placed inside, for the milk which would be poured from the milkman's can. The remaining two cent piece was dated 1851. The tiny cover of the pitcher is still intact.

Each package was then held up to view and the owner requested to unwrap the contents and give the legend of the article.

Mrs. George A. Folger opened a set of eight apothecary's weights which were made in France, probably in the early 1800's. These weights, perfectly graduated, all fitted into the largest which covered and enclosed them securely. Mrs. Wallace Long unwrapped a carefully inlaid, wooden box which had held the personal papers of Captain George Pollard who was master of the whaling ship "Essex" which was sunk by an angry whale in 1820. Captain Pollard was one of five who survived after drifting for 93 days and enduring unimaginable hardships.

Mrs. Harold Page, having no possession from Nantucket's past, brought a prize from her own early childhood when she had learned to sew a fine seam, and held up for inspection a very serviceable pair of doll's pants with infinitesimal stitches and lace trimming which had taken her a full year to produce.

Miss Grace Brown Gardner gave a delightful story with the painting of her grandmother's home which was located in "Egypt." The painting had been given to Miss Brown's mother by the painter, the famous Walter Folger. Miss Gardner also held up to view the small lantern which her grandmother had carried until her death at 99. Especially had she carried the lantern when visiting her old home in "Egypt."

Mrs. George Jones opened a large and beautifully painted Chinese tea caddy which was brought from China by her grandfather, Captain Henry Coleman, who mastered the famous ship "Howqua" out of New York in 1855. Captain Coleman's wife and two sons accompanied him on this voyage of 126 days to China and 130 days returning! The "Howqua" was named for a Chinese who had been appointed by the Emperor to engage in trade with the West. He became fabulously wealthy, and was highly respected both in China and this country. His name is closely associated with Nantucket's whaling days. The ship "Howqua" eventually went to the "Port of Missing Ships" but the tea caddy remains intact with lovely gold and black designs, and containing two compartments large enough to hold a vast amount of tea.

Mrs. Alice Shurrocks' grandfather, James Austin, once had a tin shop on Main Street. When her mother was a little girl he made an expertly finished tiny tin scoop for her. Mrs. Shurrocks brought this scoop which had inspired some of the incidents in her book, "Two Steps Down."

Mr. Norman Giffin's grandfather, Captain Joseph P. Nye, sailed, with his bride, on the ship "Alto," from Fairhaven, on an Atlantic whaling voyage in 1864. While on this voyage, Captain Nye, in company with another whaler, rescued the crew from the British ship "Wigtonshire" which was destroyed by fire at sea.

In 1866 Her Majesty's Government presented to Captain Nye (and the captain of the other whaling vessel) a fine sextant most adequately boxed. Mr. Giffin brought this sextant and a copy of the presentation letter from Her Majesty.

Mrs. James Hammond brought and demonstrated the unusual tone of a small temple gong from India which she had gotten in Turkey. This gong is perhaps 1,500 years old, and still has its tone!

Mrs. Charlotte King brought the sewing kit which had been given to her grandmother, Mary Harris Riddell, by her father, Timothy, in 1851, when she was 12 years old. The kit is a group of small drawers placed on top of one another somewhat in the fashion of a Chinese temple, with a covered container for spools of thread which has bone or ivory eyelets, and topping all an embroidered pin cushion.

Mr. Robert Caldwell unwrapped and held up to view a singularly beautiful porringer, probably a Benjamin Bunker work of art, similar to those Mr. Everett U. Crosby pictured in his book, "Books and Baskets, Signs and Silver of Old-Time Nantucket." This porringer was originally owned by Edward and Lydia Carey, who were the first family of this name on the Island, in 1738. Since that date it has been handed down to direct descendants of the Carey family.

Mrs. Margaret Fawcett Wilson showed a small, attractive card case which was owned by the renowned actress, Mrs. G. H. Gilbert, who was, for many years, a frequent guest of Mrs. Wilson's parents in Sconset. Mrs. Wilson showed a pair of antique ear rings which her mother wore when she played with Otis Skinner in the "Honor of the Family."

Mrs. Nancy Adams held up to view her most precious piece of scrimshaw, a tiny and most artfully made penknife with a handle of whale bone carved into a perfect leg and slippers foot.

Mrs. G. E. Hutaff brought the long chain and scissors, the "housewife" which had belonged to her great-grandmother, Susan Burnell Elkins, having been given to Susan by her father, Jonathan Burnell, who was lost at sea in 1783. It has belonged to direct descendants of Susan since then.

Mrs. Alice P. Amey had for all to view the cameo which Maria Mitchell had cut while in Rome in 1857. The cameo is the "Quaker" head of Mrs. Amey's great-grandmother, and Maria Mitchell's mother, Mrs. William Mitchell. This large, unique cameo is probably the only one of its kind, a most unusual and precious piece. Mrs. Molly Norcross showed the lovely sterling silver card case which belonged to her great-grandmother, Sarah Allen, who married William Starbuck and lived in the Lower Brick. Miss Marjorie Barrett exhibited the very appealing portrait of her grandfather, Josiah Barrett, which was painted by Phoebe Fitzgerald Barney. It is a tiny portrait in colors on a light background and has a charm of its own.

Saying she had searched unsuccessfully for a Nantucket ancestor, Miss Gladys Wood brought two enticing silhouettes, a gentleman who could easily have been a most affluent Nantucket merchant, and a demure but firm lady, who could have been his capable wife.

Mrs. Mary L. Gouin brought a lovely old watch, large, with a key to wind, and a chain to match, which might have been made from California gold, and was the property of

Mary Anne Chase who died at the age of 77 in 1917.

Mr. Warner White brought to the gam several beautiful samples of lace which he had purchased in France during a stay there in 1918. These exquisite laces can hardly be duplicated today as the art of making them has nearly ceased to exist.

Mrs. Norman Giffin showed a tiny but perfect silver spoon and told the story which follows the spoon through their family. Mr. Giffin's grandmother had been promised a silver spoon for her first born but when the baby arrived the family finances were low. However, her husband, not to fail in his promise, presented her with the miniature spoon which has become a family heirloom.

Mr. John Bartlett produced the second piece of scrimshaw of the evening; a carved whale's tooth which had come to him through his mother who was a Hussey and whose ancestors had been whalers.

As Dr. Gardner commented at this point, it was surprising to see only two pieces of scrimshaw among a collection of Nantucketers' possessions, for, as everyone is aware, Nantucket houses abound with examples of this special art of the whaling days.

Miss Margaret Harwood read short excerpts from the private correspondence of Miss Maria Mitchell which were both amusing and illuminating.

Mr. George Jones showed colored snapshots of a large banjo clock, a fine clock with brass pendulum, decoratively painted in gold with striking colored designs, which has been in his family for six generations. This came to Mr. Jones' notice first when he was four years old, when it hung over the mantel of his grandfather's living room in the house at the corner of Plumb Lane and Orange Street. Asa Jones handed the clock down to his son, and then it came directly to the present owner. Mr. Jones also had colored snaps of a beautiful old "grandfather" clock which was built during the Revolution (1775) when brass was very scarce and the plates which hold the works are made from many pieces of brass so carefully dovetailed the clock keeps accurate time to this day.

This was the last of the planned presentation of precious possessions and Dr. Gardner inquired if there were further articles which would be of interest to all those present, and there were—several fascinating articles. These were held to view with enthusiasm and examined with keen interest.

Mrs. Amey showed the beautiful gold pen with jeweled cap and long chain, which belonged to Maria Mitchell, is dated 1856, and was used by Miss Helen Wright when she autographed copies of her book, "Sweeper in the Sky."

Mrs. Charlotte King held up for all to see the gold ring set with a sapphire given to Mrs. Walter N. Chase (wife of Captain Chase who was keeper of the Coskata Life Saving Station) by the Captain of the "Western Belle" in 1890. Captain Chase assisted the "Western Belle" when she was in trouble and was offered extra remuneration for the service. This he refused as he felt the assistance was given in line of duty. Then the captain of the "Western Belle" asked permission to give Mrs. Chase a small gift. Permission was granted and Mrs. Chase received the gold ring from the captain. Later there was some chagrin on the part of the good Captain Chase when an article appeared in the Boston papers giving an account of the "Western Belle" which had come from Singapore with smuggled jewelry aboard!

With thanks and applause to Dr. Gardner for a most enjoyable and entertaining gam, and sincere thanks to the librarian, Mrs. Norcross, of the Maria Mitchell Association for the use of their pleasant rooms, President Jones closed the 1958 Gam with all persons present satisfied they had never attended a more interesting and enjoyable gam session.

A. P. R.

Whaling Museum to Open On Memorial Day.

Decoration Day Friday, May 30th, the usual seasonal opening date, will find the doors of the Whaling Museum open and the Museum and its staff ready for business. As in past years the hours will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and Sundays. The general admission fee is the same namely, 50c per person except for children under 12 years of age who are admitted free but must be accompanied by an adult. Members of the Association upon showing their membership card are admitted free.

Archie Cartwright, the last Nantucketer to go whaling, will be on hand again as Custodian to pilot visitors through the many exhibits and tell them stories of the sea. Mrs. Bernice Foye, at the reception desk, will extend her usual welcome to visitors and also be available to answer the many questions prompted by the "Scrimshaw" collection. Mrs. Ellen Chase, diminutive in size but a giantess in her knowledge of log books, whaling records and stories, will be in the library to answer questions and help researchers.

Open house will be celebrated at the Whaling Museum on Sunday afternoon, June 8th from 2 until 5 p.m. A cordial invitation is extended by the Council of the Nantucket Historical Association to the Public to visit the Whaling Museum at that time as guests of the Council. Be sure to remember the day and the hours for Open House or Guest Day at the Whaling Museum but remember also that children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult while visiting the Museum.

Nantucket Historical Trust Fund Started by Trustees.

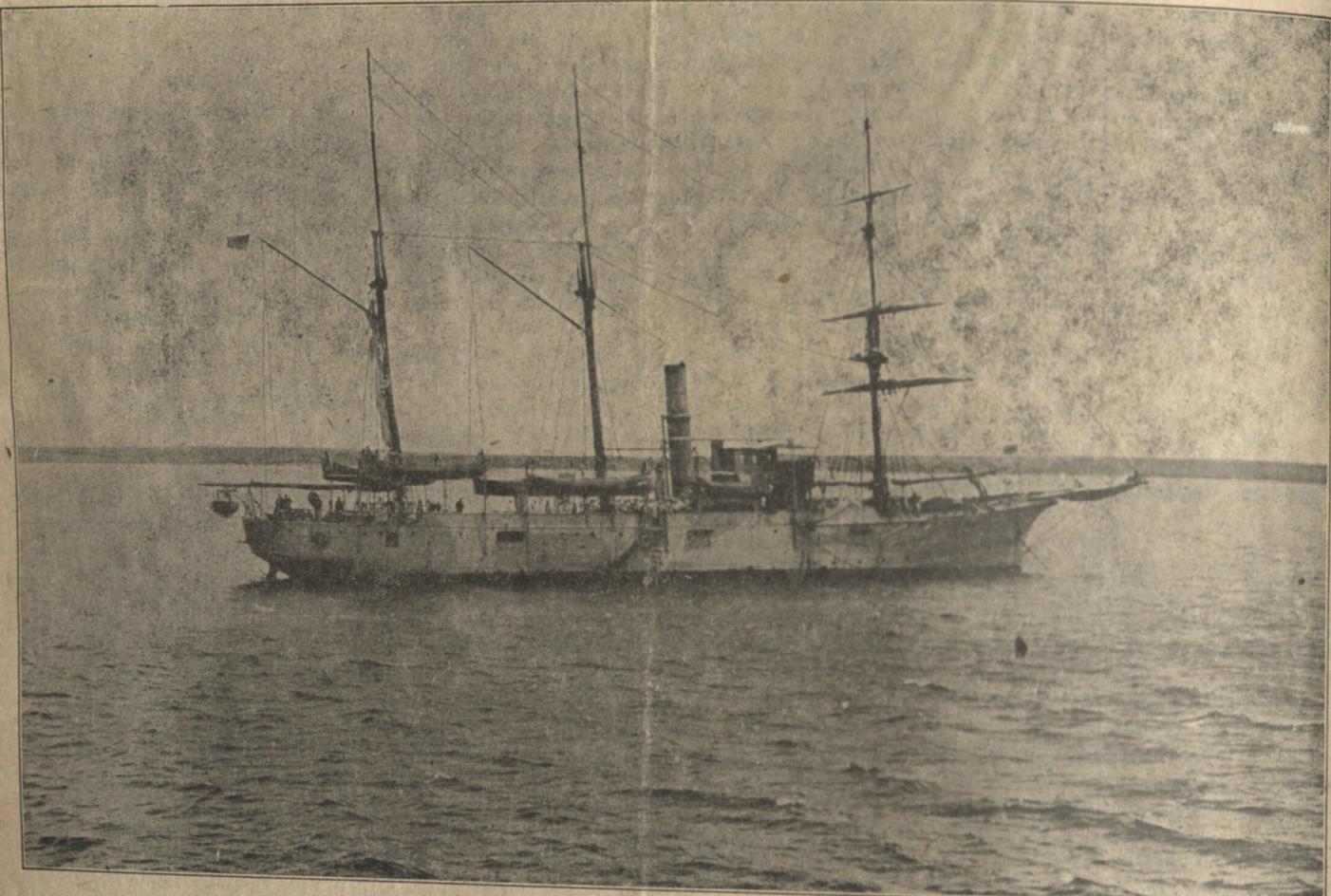
Establishment of a perpetual, charitable trust to be known as The Nantucket Historical Trust was announced by its trustees here Friday.

Its primary purposes, according to the trustees, are to "preserve, restore, repair or maintain buildings, monuments, sites and property of historical significance or of educational, aesthetic or cultural value on Nantucket Island, and to assist The Nantucket Historical Association in accomplishing any of these purposes." While the trustees have the right to make contributions for the advancement of science, learning, medicine, surgery, literature, art, music or human welfare to any charitable or non-profit institutions in the United States, such provision applies only when the funds cannot be used advantageously for the Trust's primary purposes on Nantucket.

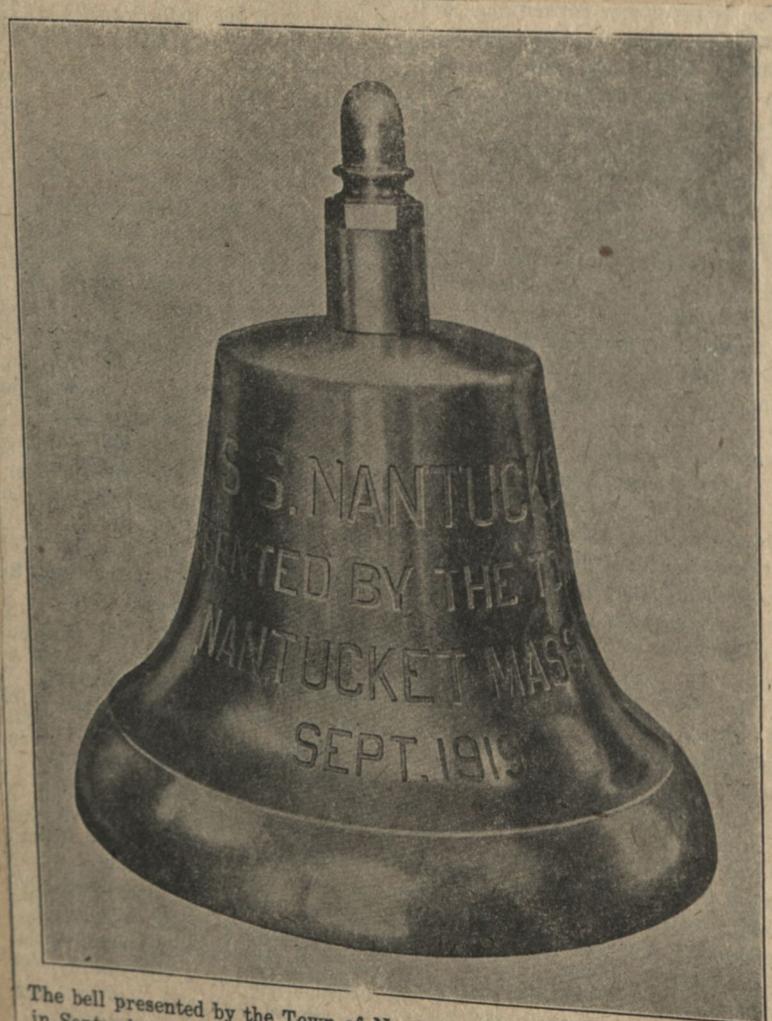
Named as trustees were Henry B. Coleman and George W. Jones, both of Nantucket, and Walter Beinecke, Jr., a long time summer resident.

The Trust, which has an initial capitalization of approximately \$25,000, hopes, over a period of time, to acquire additional capital in gifts from those interested in the welfare of the island. Under the terms of the Trust gifts may be made from either income or principal at the discretion of the trustees, and such grants may be made to foundations, funds, community chests and other organizations operated on Nantucket exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes.

Former Training Ship "Nantucket" Towed to Junk Yard.



The U. S. S. "Nantucket" at anchor in Nantucket Harbor forty years ago.



The bell presented by the Town of Nantucket to the U. S. S. "Nantucket" in September, 1919, which the Nantucket Historical Association hopes will be returned to the island.

In September, 1919, the name of the three-masted bark "Ranger," a training ship belonging to the Massachusetts Nautical School, was changed

to U. S. S. "Nantucket." At that time the town presented to the ship a beautiful new bell, suitably engraved, at ceremonies held in the Great Hall of the Nantucket Atheneum.

For several years during World War I the "Ranger" had been making Nantucket Island her headquarters and the captain of the training ship, Captain Hourigan, had grown to love the Island and her residents. It was through his efforts that the name was changed by the Navy Department to the "Nantucket."

As time went on, the Massachusetts Nautical School became the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and the "Nantucket" continued in use as a Merchant Marine training ship. Subsequently her name was again changed this time to the "Emery Rice" and for the past 15 years she has served as a museum ship at the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, L. I.

As a museum ship the "Ranger-Nantucket-Emery Rice" contained many ship models, rare prints, and other marine exhibits. It became apparent about a year ago that the upkeep of the ship as a museum was costing far more than her use merited and it was decided to sell her for scrap. The high bidder was the Boston Metals Co., of Baltimore, Md., for \$13,660, and last weekend the 78 year old vessel began her last voyage, this time at the end of a towline from a tug.

President George W. Jones, of the Nantucket Historical Association, sent a letter this week to the Boston Metals Co., asking if the bell which was given by the Town of Nantucket to the ship is still on it and, if it is, what the possibilities would be for the bell to be returned to Nantucket to become a valued addition to the Association's collection of maritime memorabilia. As we go to press, Mr. Jones has not received an answer to his request.

During the years that the "Ranger-Nantucket" was used as a training ship, first for the Massachusetts Nautical School and later as part of the Merchant Marine, several Nantucket men graduated from the school. The majority of these Nantucket men who received part of their training on the ship went on to make the sea their career, continuing in the Navy, the Merchant Marine, or in other ways making use of the knowledge they had gained while at the school.

At the time when the bell was presented to the U. S. S. "Nantucket," the following Nantucketers had entered the Massachusetts Nautical School: Franklin B. Atwood, Elmer N. Baker, William M. Bartlett, Jr., Elliot Beaman, Charles B. Bickerstaff, Richard C. Bickerstaff, David W. Cahoon, Howard U. Chase, William H. Chase, Jr., Richard Coffin, Stanley Cook, Ellenwood Folger, Arthur B. Gibbs, Irving L. Gibbs, Howard D. Hodge, Leonard Hollingsworth, William R. Macy, Harry Manter, Edward E. Morey, Chester E. Morris, Elmer F. Pease, William O. Simpson, Alexander F. Smith, Harding Smith, Herbert P. Smith, Arthur P. Stevens, Joseph B. Sylvano, and Frederick H. H. Sylvia.

Impressive ceremonies were held at Kings Point before the "Emery Rice" began her last voyage. The flag was lowered from one of her masts for the last time by Lt. James

F. Beatty, USMS, assistant professor of engineering at the academy and its oldest alumnus. A brief talk about the ship was given by Capt. Harold V. Nerney, executive officer of the academy and a graduate of the ship when

she was the training ship "Nantucket." Taps were sounded, the Merchant Marine cadets saluted, and then the tug, with an answering salute, towed the old vessel away to the scrap yard.

Training Ship Graduates Contact George Jones.

George W. Jones, president of the Nantucket Historical Association, revealed yesterday that there was still some hope that the organization would get the old ship's bell that was used on the Massachusetts Nautical Training ship, Nantucket for many years.

Mr. Jones stated that he had received a letter from Chairman Arthur C. Sullivan of the Mass. Maritime Academy Commission informing him that the Commission still has the question of the final disposition of the bell under consideration.

Chairman Sullivan asked Mr. Jones if he could supply him with newspaper clippings reporting the ceremonies attending the presentation of the bell from the Town of Nantucket to the training ship Nantucket and also a complete list of all Nantucket men who were schooled on the ship.

Chairman Sullivan indicated in his letter that although they are working on the project of setting up an Academy museum, the matter of keeping the bell there had not been definitely settled.

In September, 1919, the name of the three-masted bark "Ranger," a training ship belonging to the Massachusetts Nautical School, was changed to U. S. S. "Nantucket." At that time the town presented to the ship a beautiful new bell, suitably engraved, at ceremonies held in the Great Hall of the Nantucket Atheneum.

For several years during World War I the "Ranger" had been making Nantucket Island her headquarters and the captain of the training ship, Captain Hourigan, had grown to love the Island and her residents. It was through his efforts that the name was changed by the Navy Department to the "Nantucket."

As time went on, the Massachusetts Nautical School became the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and the "Nantucket" continued in use as a Merchant Marine training ship. Subsequently her name was again changed

this time to the "Emery Rice" and for the past 15 years she has served as a museum ship at the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, L. I.

During the years that the "Ranger-Nantucket" was used as a training ship, first for the Massachusetts Nautical School and later as part of the Merchant Marine, several Nantucket men graduated from the school. The majority of these Nantucket men who received part of their training on the ship went on to make the sea their career, continuing in the Navy, the Merchant Marine, or in other ways making use of the knowledge they had gained while at the school.

As a museum ship the "Ranger-Nantucket-Emery Rice" contained many ship models, rare prints, and other marine exhibits. It became apparent about a year ago that the upkeep of the ship as a museum was costing far more than her use merited and it was decided to sell her for scrap. The high bidder was the Boston Metals Co., of Baltimore, Md., for \$13,660, and the 78 year old vessel began her last voyage, this time at the end of a towline from a tug.

President George W. Jones, of the Nantucket Historical Association, sent a letter in March to the Boston Metals Co., asking if the bell which was given by the Town of Nantucket to the ship is still on it, and if it is, what the possibilities would be for the bell to be returned to Nantucket to become a valued addition to the Association's collection of maritime memorabilia.

A second letter, to the Maritime Academy, brought an answer to the effect that they intended to place the bell in their own museum which they plan to establish in Buzzards Bay.

In order to present Nantucket's claim to the bell as fully as possible, Mr. Jones has requested that all those men who graduated from the training ship, either as the "Ranger" or as the "Nantucket", send their names to him as soon as possible. The list which Mr. Jones has now is complete only until 1919.

The Boston Daily Globe

Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 29, 1958



WINDMILL ON THE HILL.—This 200-year-old structure on Nantucket is one of the major tourist attractions of this historic and picturesque island. (Photo by Massachusetts Department of Commerce)

New Street in Nova Scotia
Named "Nantucket Avenue."

Mr. Edouard A. Stackpole, who was formerly associate editor of "The Inquirer and Mirror" and is now curator of the Mystic Seaport at Mystic, Conn., recently wrote regarding a proposal to name a street in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, "Nantucket Avenue." He enclosed an editorial from a Dartmouth newspaper on the subject which is reprinted below, together with his letter of explanation.

Editors of the Inquirer and Mirror:

The attached editorial from the Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, "Free Press," is self-explanatory. This incident not only brings to light an interesting connection between Nantucket and Nova Scotia, but revives interest in one of the most interesting phases of whaling history — the migration of Nantucket whalers to other ports on this continent and in Europe.

The location of Nantucket Avenue is in itself of interest. As tourists cross the recently completed bridge from Halifax to Dartmouth they will find the newly named street directly in front of them, serving as an artery to the country beyond as well as a main thoroughfare through Dartmouth.

Another interesting point is that Nantucket Avenue runs across the old Common of 150 acres which was originally set off to the Nantucket Proprietors who came to Dartmouth. Today there is a large shopping center here, which attracts thousands of people from the Halifax as well as Dartmouth area.

The Town Historian of Dartmouth is John P. Martin, a man who is truly a scholarly gentleman. When I was doing my research for "The Sea Hunters" in Nova Scotia, Mr. Martin took me to meet one of the last of the descendants of the Nantucket families who established their whaling colony there from 1785 to 1791. He also introduced me to a number of prominent officials in Halifax and Dartmouth, all of whom were intrigued by the Nantucket migration.

It is good to keep alive the story of the Quaker whalers of Nantucket. Their enterprise and courage are examples well worth remembering, as they represent qualities of both mind and spirit, as well as enterprise and determination.

Sincerely,
Edouard A. Stackpole

300th Anniversary Committee
Reports Progress.

The 300th Birthday Anniversary Steering Committee held a meeting Monday night at the Sanford House. Mrs. Marie Cloud, of the Paul B. Newsome Public Relations firm in Boston, was present to go over the various plans with the committee.

Chairman George Jones stated that, through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Deeley, the cottage on the end of the Island Service Wharf, called "Ship Ahoy," has been loaned to the committee for the season. He stated that Mrs. Cloud is going to try to interest newspaper and magazine editors, writers, artists, and photographers to visit the island for a week or weekend to get free publicity and create good public relations for the 1959 celebration.

The newspaper and magazine people who accept the invitation will be housed at "Ship Ahoy" free of charge while they are here.

Mrs. Cloud stayed here three days and had a chance to interview a number of persons in regard to Nantucket history and talked with several committee chairmen. She obtained a great deal of the historic background of the island in a talk with Miss Grace Brown Gardner.

Chairman Jones said that the committee placed a second order for more auto emblems and, as they received a lower cost price, they have reduced the charge to the public from \$1.50 each to \$1 for each emblem purchased. The new emblems have "Mass" on the bottom of them.

The Nantucket commemorative tiles have arrived and are on sale at six gift shops for the price of 1.95 each and the sets of commemorative glasses are expected very soon.

Mr. Jones stated the glasses will be in sets of eight and will have the anniversary emblem seal in gold on the side. Underneath will be the wording, "Nantucket, Mass." and "1659-1959" also in gold.

Mr. Newsome also came to the island this week and on Thursday was taken around to the hotels by Mr. Jones to meet the owners and mana-

gers. Mr. Jones said the purpose of this was to acquaint the hotel operators with the anniversary plans and program for 1959 so that they in turn may explain it to their guests.

Nantucket Historical Association

ANNUAL MEETING

The Sixty-fourth Annual Meeting of the members of the Association will be held at Atheneum Hall at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 15, 1958, for the following purposes:

The reception of annual reports; the election of officers for the ensuing year; to vote to amend the Certificate of Incorporation issued by the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on July 9, 1894, and to transact any other business brought before the meeting.

Members and their guests are cordially invited to attend.

George W. Jones, President

Editorial

"I Got to Thinking."

A dignified Nantucket man, whose quiet manner and well-modulated voice belied the merry twinkle in his eye, stood before the members attending the annual meeting of the Nantucket Historical Association the other afternoon. Like so many of his forebears, who had addressed gatherings in the Great Hall of the Atheneum, this man was a real Nantucket gentleman, devoted to the island and town, a historian of note, and a man possessing an innate sense of humor quickly apparent to his audience.

His words, as spoken to the gathering, went about this way. "Some time ago, when I went along the Madaket Road, I stopped by the Abiah Folger Franklin Memorial fountain and looked around at the land to the north. As some of you know, I have been working for the past three years on a story of Peter Folger and his family. Peter Folger was the father of Abiah, who became the mother of Benjamin Franklin. His home, where he raised eight children, was over there in that lot beyond the fountain.

"Well, I got to thinking about that land and about the fountain and I thought how nice it would be if there were some place here where people could sit down, some benches, maybe. And then I thought what a nice thing it would be if this land could belong to the Nantucket Historical Association. Some day the present owner might decide to sell that land and that would be an awful thing to have happen. So I decided to find out who owned that land now.

"I did, and I want to ask a question of a gentleman in this audience."

At that point he asked Mr. Thomas Hallowell if he knew who owned the land in question. Not only did the latter gentleman know, but he arose and presented a deed for the land to Mr. George Jones, president of the Nantucket Historical Association. And he made the presentation of the land to the Association in the name of Dr. Will Gardner—for Nantucket's beloved Dr. Will was the gentleman who had an idea and carried it out.

Dr. Will Gardner, son of Nantucketers, retired Episcopal minister, and a well-known historian and author, had the initiative to do what so many of us fail to do. We have a "dream" about something that would be "a nice thing", but there it ends. Dr. Will took his dream, followed it through and made it a reality. Because of his interest, his initiative and his efforts, the Nantucket Historical Association now owns the land where Abiah Folger Franklin was born and brought up.

In behalf of all Nantucketers, we say "Thank you, Dr. Will."

Historical Assn. Given Land At Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting and election of officers of the Nantucket Historical Association was held Tuesday afternoon in the Great Hall at the Nantucket Atheneum with about 50 members in attendance.

The meeting opened with President George W. Jones extending a welcome to all, followed by a reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting by the secretary, Miss Ethel Anderson.

During the business session it was voted to amend the Certificate of Incorporation, issued by the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on July 9, 1894, by adding a section to the "purposes" clause to allow a greater expansion in the work of the organization.

President Jones gave his annual report and account of the additions to the exhibits in the past year.

He told of repair work to the old mill, the acquisition of the business account books of Charles and Henry Coffin, and a series of letters from their ship captains, and a log book and letters of Captain Henry Phelan, who was master of both the "Omega" and "Three Brothers" whaling ships.

President Jones also spoke of the birth of the Nantucket Historical Trust, the coming 300th celebration next year, and paid tribute to members, Everett U. Crosby and Dr. William E. Gardner.

During the election of officers Mr. Jones was re-elected president for another year.

Elected vice-presidents were: Miss Grace Brown Gardner, Everett U. Crosby, Howard U. Chase, Burnham N. Dell, W. Ripley Nelson, and Stokely W. Morgan.

Other officers elected were: Miss Ethel Anderson, secretary; Ormond F. Ingall, auditor, and Robert C. Caldwell and Miss Alma Robbins, councilors until 1962.

Dr. Gardner was called on to say a few words and he spoke of the life of Peter Folger, whose daughter, Abiah, became the wife of Josiah Franklin, and mother of the great American inventor and statesman, Benjamin Franklin. He told of walking out to the fountain on the Market Road, which commemorates the birthplace of Abiah Folger Franklin, and visualizing a memorial park on the land that was farmed by Peter Folger and where Abiah was raised.

Dr. Gardner then called on Thomas Hallowell, of Hulbert Avenue and New York, to give him the answer as to who owns the land he was talking about.

Mr. Hallowell replied, "Strange as it may be, I happen to be in the position of owning it."

Mr. Hallowell went on to say that Dr. Gardner had talked with him about the possibility of the association acquiring the land for both a memorial and a park. He said that he agreed with him and that he would be pleased to give the land to the association, but that he felt that as the idea was entirely Dr. Gardner's that it should be given in his name.

Mr. Hallowell then presented the land to President Jones, who accepted it with thanks.

Also a feature of the meeting was the presentation of an oil painting of the Old Mill by F. Gregg Bemis, of Brookline, president of the Bemis Bros. Bag Co.

Mr. Bemis stated that, starting back in 1930, the company had been using paintings of old mills from all over the country to feature on their Christmas cards. He said that these paintings are presented to historic associations or museums when possible and this one of the Nantucket mill is to be used on the 1958 cards.

Mr. Bemis said it was noteworthy that his company is celebrating its 100th year of business and that he was pleased to present this painting to the association located in a town that will soon be celebrating its 300th anniversary of its settlement.

The painting was accepted with thanks by President Jones, on behalf of the association.

An unexpected speaker was Edouard Stackpole who was called on by President Jones to speak.

Mr. Stackpole pointed out the fact that many of the roots of history are found in the records of Nantucket. He told of being called to speak at a celebration held at Hudson, N. Y., and how a great deal of his information about the founding of the town was located here.

1869 New Year's Resolutions Provide Many Contrasts.

At the first of the year 1869, not quite 90 years ago, a young man made and recorded 25 New Year's resolutions. Written in bold and unusually well-formed script the original copy has been preserved by his family all these years with other papers of his in a miniature chest very similar to the one which belonged to Mate Owen Chase of the Whale Ship "Essex."

Brief to an extreme, one cannot help but wonder in this present day, if they are representative of the teen-age thinking of '69. His resolutions were:

To read some part of Scripture every day.

To use no intoxicating liquors or tobacco.

To do unto others as I would have them do unto me.

To keep the Ten Commandments.

Business Resolutions

Resolved to be a merchant.

Resolved to be honest.

To be punctual.

Be industrious.

Be polite and obliging to all.

To improve my spare minutes by reading useful books, studying, and C.

To take as much interest in my employer's business as I would my own.

To learn all I can appertaining to my business.

Be saving.

Attend to my own business.

Whatever I do, do it well.

Never act too hastily.

Have a mind of my own, and be firm in whatever is right.

Not to engage in any speculation outside of my business, unless to make a good investment.

Not to trade beyond my capital.

Not to expend more than my profits, but to live within my means.

Not to borrow money, nor owe no man a dollar, if I can possibly help it.

Have my books kept well.

Oversee my business myself.

If I obtain more than an independence, to do all the good I can with it.

Is it small wonder that after honorable service in the Navy and as a seafaring man of the Pacific, notice of his death, March 13, 1884, should read: "Washed overboard by a tidal wave. A sterling young man, well liked by all who came in contact with him and he is missed by all his friends who regret his untimely death." The young man was Ferdinand A. Sylvia, brother of Mrs. Charles Brooks who was a school teacher on Tuckernuck Island where she met the man who became her husband.

Miss Mildred Howland Brooks, of Madaket and Belmont, daughter of Mrs. Brooks and niece of Ferdinand A. Sylvia has just presented these family keepsakes to the Nantucket Historical Association together with a number of articles left by her grandfather, Joseph Palmer Sylvia,

who was first a whaler, then an outfitter of whale ships in Nantucket and who lived on the location of the airport in the old Holmes farm house.

Included among his possessions given to the Association was a whale tooth with the carved inscription: "This is a tooth of the last whale, killed by Joseph P. Sylvia, in the Ship Rambler, in the year 1821, Capt. Benjamin Worth, Master." Scrimshaw items included a jagger wheel, a rolling pin, and a napkin ring of whale bone. These articles together with some interesting old papers had been preserved in a small chest used by sailors for valuable papers.

Family treasures such as these always are welcome additions to the Historical Association exhibits of Nantucket Mementos which, woven together, tell so graphically and picturesquely the story of the Island's historic past.

Whaling Museum's Latest Gift Older Than Susan's Teeth.

Rarely does a woman brag of her old age and even more rarely can she brag of the age of her teeth. But Susan of Nantucket has been doing just that for many years, especially since Everett U. Crosby published in 1955 his book "Susan's Teeth." Susan was different from most women, for when she was born, in 1826, she weighed 349 tons and was rigged with Frederick Swain as her Master and Aaron Mitchell owner-manager on her earliest voyages which were all to the Pacific. Needless to say Susan of Nantucket was a ship.

Susan's first voyage was from August 21, 1826, to October 21, 1829, and it was during this voyage that Susan cut her seven famous teeth, which, for the benefit of the uninitiated, were scrimshawed whales teeth. These seven teeth, according to Mr. Crosby, are the earliest teeth, of which there is a record, scrimshawed aboard an American whalership with the date, name of ship and its master.

The owners of Susan's teeth and the date on each of the teeth as recorded by Mr. Crosby follows, the first five being owned on Nantucket Island:

Miss Pauline Brown, December 10, 1828.

Everett U. Crosby, December 28, 1828.

Hon. Breckinridge Long, January 13, 1829.

Winthrop Williams, February 6, 1829.

Nantucket Historical Association, August 22, 1829.

Peabody Museum, Salem, Mass., January 2, 1829.

Peabody Museum, Salem, Mass., January 22, 1829.

There was at one time an eighth tooth, present owner and existence now unknown, which belonged to Clifford Ashley, one of the best authorities on scrimshaw, and author of "The Yankee Whales." He is quoted as having stated, "The earliest piece of dated scrimshaw I am able to describe is the tooth in my collection decorated on the first voyage of the Susan of Nantucket in 1829." All facts seemed to substantiate the claim that Susan's teeth were the earliest or rather the oldest pieces of dated scrimshaw.

Last week it was reported that the Nantucket Historical Association had received from Miss Mildred Howland Brooks, of Madaket and Belmont, as a gift, a whale tooth which had belonged to her grandfather, Joseph Palmer Sylvia. Looking for an appropriate location for the newly acquired tooth Mrs. Herbert Foye, who is in charge of the scrimshaw collection at the Whaling Museum, naturally gravitated to the case containing "Susan's tooth" while carefully inspecting the tooth in her hand as a possible addition. The quiet of the scrimshaw room was suddenly blasted by her startling exclamation: "Eureka!!! It just can't be!!—but, yes, it is — it is older than Susan's teeth!!" True it was, for there, in her hand, she held a whale's tooth with the inscription etched thereon in clear old fashioned script:

"This is a tooth of the last whale, Killed by Joseph P. Sylvia, In the Ship Rambler In the year 1821 Capt. Benjamin Worth, Master." Starbuck's "History," under whaling voyages includes the following data:

"Ship, Rambler; Captain, Benjamin Worth; Whaling ground, Pacific Ocean; Date sailed, Nov. 21, 1818; Date Returned, Oct. 31, 1821; Result voyage Sperm Oil 2040; Built in Kingston, 1818; out of Nantucket."

Thus "Susan's teeth" have lost to "Joseph's tooth," by seven and eight years, their claim of being the earliest scrimshaw with the date, name of ship, and its Master, but the Whaling Museum of the Nantucket Historical Association has gained the enviable right to claim ownership of what appears to be "the earliest piece of dated scrimshaw," namely a whale's tooth identified and dated 1821.

"Joseph's tooth" is 7½ inches long, eight inches maximum circumference, and two inches maximum thickness. It is an unusually perfect and well-preserved specimen of a whale's tooth. It is a true relic of old Nantucket dating from (1) the end of the first voyage of the Rambler, out of Nantucket with a Nantucketer as Master, and (2) the end of the last voyage of a Nantucketer, Joseph P. Sylvia, by whom it was marked—proudly—as a memento of the last whale he killed. "Joseph's tooth" is now on exhibition in the Scrimshaw Room at the Whaling Museum of the Nantucket Historical Association.



"THE OLD MILL," an original of the famous Nantucket Island landmark, was presented this summer to the Nantucket Historical Association as a gift from Bemis Brothers Bag Company during its centennial year. The painting, done by Artist Lloyd P. Harting, was presented to F. Gregg Bemis, of Boston, president of the 100-year-old company.

William H. Tripp Accepts Post On Whaling Museum Committee.

The Council of the Nantucket Historical Association at its August meeting re-elected the following chairmen of the committees in charge of the Association's buildings: Oldest House, Mrs. William Perkins; Historical Museum, Mrs. William L. Mather; 1800 House, Mrs. Walton H. Adams; Old Mill, Robert Caldwell; Old Jail, Ossewell J. Small, and the Whaling Museum, W. Ripley Nelson.

At the Historical Museum Mrs. Mather will be assisted by Mrs. Walton H. Adams and Miss Alma Robbins as members of the Museum committee. At the Whaling Museum, Mrs. Kent King and Albert Egan, Jr., have consented to serve again as committee members. As the whaling history of Nantucket will be featured prominently in the 300th Anniversary celebration next year, the Whaling Museum Committee is to be enlarged. The Association is extremely fortunate in having secured the consent of Mr. William H. Tripp to serve as a member of this committee.

Mr. Tripp, a life member of the Association, is a recognized authority and frequent lecturer on whaling and the history of the industry. He started at the age of 10 taking photos of whaling ships at the docks in New Bedford and from that time on photography and whaling have been two of his hobbies. After 31 years' service Mr. Tripp retired from the First National Bank in New Bedford. He thereupon was elected Assistant Curator of the Old Dartmouth Society and Whaling Museum of New Bedford. In 1932 he was

elected curator in which capacity he served actively until 1955 when he retired after 25 years' service. In 1925 he gained first hand knowledge of whaling when he sailed on the schooner "John R. Manta" as a guest of the captain. For six weeks they cruised on the Matteras grounds. Seven whales were captured, cut in, and tried out exactly as had been done for, as Mr. Tripp narrates, "The past 75 years." During this cruise he obtained 250 photographs of the entire process which, together with many other photos, are shown by him when he lectures. As a result of his annual visits to Nantucket for the past 40 years he has many friends on the Island.

President George W. Jones who is also chairman of the 300th Anniversary Steering Committee advised that it is planned to stage next year contests between ancient fire fighting equipment manned by Island and off-Island teams. The Council voted to have the old "handtubs" placed in perfect working condition. The "Cat-aract" is drawn by men pulling on a long rope. The rope has 14 handles to be manned by 28 men. The other ancient "tub" is marked "Siasconset." So once again Nantucket will see its fire fighting equipment drawn through the streets perhaps to one of the old street cisterns where the hose can be dropped and the fire fighters man the brakes on each side crying as they work the bars and pump, "Brake her down! Brake her down!" is in the days of old.

**Henry Coffin Carlisle Takes Post
On Whaling Museum Committee.**

The Nantucket Historical Association announces that Henry Coffin Carlisle, a descendant of a long line of seafaring Nantucket ancestors, has agreed to serve as a member of the committee in charge of the Whaling Museum. Mr. Carlisle, through his mother, Mary Coffin Carlisle, is a grandson of Henry and Elizabeth (Starbuck) Coffin. He is now the owner of and a regular summer resident in the large brick mansion, No. 75 Main Street, built by Henry Coffin in 1833 and which has been owned by the family since that date.

When Mr. Carlisle inherited the stately mansion he found in the attic a treasure trove of material which proved to be a real and valuable link to the Island's past, to say nothing of the part this family played in it. Among the interesting items were letters from the ship's masters and accounts pertaining to the over 80 whaling voyages of the ships owned by Henry Coffin and his brother Charles G., sons of Zenas Coffin, one of the wealthiest men in the country in his time, who successfully carried on their father's business as merchants, candle manufacturers, and owners of a large fleet of Nantucket's best-known whaleships. Subsequent ventures in land development, the railroad, and a steam plow were told also by letters, accounts, pictures, maps, and many mementoes.

Mr. Carlisle, an internationally-known consulting mining engineer, has been a resident of San Francisco, for many years. However, since he inherited the family mansion his summers have been spent not only in setting up in his "attic" a most unusual family-owned historical exhibit of Nantucket, but in constructive and active participation in the work of the Historical Association. One of his most interesting and valuable projects is the preservation of stories of the historical past through tape recordings made under his guidance by the island's oldest residents whose memories heretofore have been the sole record of many phases of the historic past. The Whaling Museum Committee, which now consists of five members, is strengthened greatly by the addition of Mr. Carlisle as a member.

The Whaling Museum continues to be a leading attraction of the island for the 300,000 paid admission mark since its original opening in 1930, was passed this summer. This by no means includes all admissions, for members are entitled to free admission as well as children under 12 years of age when accompanied by an adult. This record is especially noteworthy when one considers that the museum is open only during four summer months each year and that most of the visitors are admitted during two of those months—July and August.

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Nantucket Historical Association Given Large Donation

The regular meeting of the Council of the Nantucket Historical Association, with President George W. Jones presiding was held Tuesday afternoon, November 18, in the Council Room in the Friends Meeting House. The usual reports of the treasurer and committee chairmen were presented after which several interest were re-summarized.

Stackpole Article on Migrations Features Historical Quarterly

The October issue of *Historic Nantucket*, the quarterly magazine published by the Nantucket Historical Association has just been mailed to all members of the Association.

"The Nantucket Migrations" is the title of a feature article written by Edouard A. Stackpole. It is the first of a series of articles on Nantucket Migrations by Mr. Stackpole, evidence of his continued interest in the work of the Association.

During recent years, those interested in Nantucket's unique history have been intrigued by the articles written about Nantucketers moving to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia and the subsequent move to Milford Haven, Wales. Few probably are familiar with the background to that unusual migration which was preceded by a move in the spring of 1761 of "the Quakers from Nantucket" by invitation of the British home government to move and settle at Cape Sable, Barrington Township, Nova Scotia.

The story of this first migration and the names of those who migrated as found in the official records is told in a most interesting and readable manner. One cannot help but be impressed by the determination of the Nantucketers despite severe privations and suffering to set themselves up as a separate community. It is interesting to note that the first child born to a migrating couple was named Tristram Coffin, son of John and Mary Coffin and born in 1762, also that the first girl born was named Elizabeth Gardner, daughter of Simeon and Mary Gardner and born in 1764.

Another feature article is the second and final installment of "Early Nantucket Artists" by Louise Stark (Mrs. Robert Stark). This issue tells the story of ten artists, James Walter Folger, Wendell Macy, W. Ferdinand Macy, Benjamin Tobey, Alexander Seavers, Eastman Johnson, the three MacDougalls and Annie Barker Folger. Mrs. Stark, one of Nantucket's well-known artists of today spent many hours in painstaking research to complete these illustrated articles which is a splendid record of Nantucket artists.

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An examination of the plane by Mr. West the next morning disclosed that a bolt connecting the link cable from the stick to the elevator controls was missing, Attorney Shrigley explained.

Mr. Traubner was put on the stand and he told of taking the plane to Costa on July 15, 1955, and of getting it back again a month later after he and Costa had numerous words over the progress of the work. Mr. Traubner said an overhaul job of this type

**Stackpole Article on Migrations
Features Historical Quarterly**

The October issue of *Historic Nantucket*, the quarterly magazine published by the Nantucket Historical Association has just been mailed to all members of the Association.

"The Nantucket Migrations" is the title of a feature article written by Edouard A. Stackpole. It is the first of a series of articles on Nantucket Migrations by Mr. Stackpole, evidence of his continued interest in the work of the Association.

During recent years, those interested in Nantucket's unique history have been intrigued by the articles written about Nantucketers moving to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia and the subsequent move to Milford Haven, Wales. Few probably are familiar with the background to that unusual migration which was preceded by a move in the spring of 1761 of "the Quakers from Nantucket" by invitation of the British home government to move and settle at Cape Sable, Barrington Township, Nova Scotia.

The story of this first migration and the names of those who migrated as found in the official records is told in a most interesting and readable manner. One cannot help but be impressed by the determination of the Nantucketers despite severe privations and suffering to set themselves up as a separate community. It is interesting to note that the first child born to a migrating couple was named Tristram Coffin, son of John and Mary Coffin and born in 1762, also that the first girl born was named Elizabeth Gardner, daughter of Simeon and Mary Gardner and born in 1764.

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**Nantucket Historical Association
Given Large Donation**

The regular meeting of the Council of the Nantucket Historical Association, with President George W. Jones presiding was held Tuesday afternoon, November 18, in the Council Room in the Friends Meeting House. The usual reports of the treasurer and committee chairmen were presented and accepted after which several items of special interest were reported upon as hereafter summarized.

The receipt of a generous and unsolicited donation was acknowledged with grateful appreciation when President Jones announced that the Nantucket Historical Trust, by vote of the trustees, had made a donation to the Association of \$1,000 to be used in setting up the Whaling Museum new exhibits, which is progressing satisfactorily. The laying of the cement flooring in the basement has been completed and the erection of the exhibit booths will be started shortly. William H. Tripp, Museum committeeman, is responsible for numerous donations of blocks, thimbles, sisters hooks, irons, and tools all of which are old and used on whaleships. John W. Durant, New Bedford's only remaining sail maker still in business, is the donor of some of the most interesting old items. Arthur E. Egan, of Sconset, has donated weathered wood to be used for studs erecting the walls of the booths for which aged lumber is essential to create the proper atmosphere.

It was reported also that interested members have donated sufficient funds to pay for redecorating the Whaling Museum Library. This is the only room in the building not heretofore restored. Work is to be started at once.

The 300th Anniversary Committee has listed July 15-17 and August 12-14 as the dates for the Whaling Seminars. The Association is arranging for a series of six lectures to be held in the evenings on those dates in Sanderson Hall of the Whaling Museum which will lend considerable atmosphere to the lectures. The names of the lecturers and subjects will be announced later.

President Jones reports progress in his plans for the contest next summer between teams manning Nantucket's old fire fighting "hand tubs" as they were called. Harry Gordon will captain one team and Fire Chief Bartlett the other. Both are working to get the old fire engines in perfect working order.

Mr. Jones gave a report of the progress made with respect to obtaining final legal approval from the Commonwealth Authorities on the changes in the associations certificate of incorporation so as to broaden its stated purposes as approved at the last annual meeting of the association members. Mr. Jones and the Counsel of the Association, Miss Grace Henry, made the required appearance at a public hearing held in Boston. As there were no objections raised it is anticipated final approval will be obtained in the near future.

**"Entitled to All the Privileges"
Certificate States**

"Tradition has it that no whaler was expected to ask the girl of his choice for her hand until he had 'killed his whale.' These are the words of William F. Macy in "The Nantucket Scrap Basket"—a collection of stories and sayings of the People of Nantucket. But Macy does not, nor in fact does anyone else, say what if any proof was required by the Nantucket maidens as to suitor having killed his whale.

In 1829, however, a young man who had sailed from Nantucket although not a resident of this island, decided to take no chances and so obtained an all-inclusive certificate as to his taking a whale and as to the privileges he would be entitled, to wit:

"We do hereby certify that T. D. Winship, mate of the Brig *Fame*, during a passage from New York to Gibraltar August 8, 1829—Lat. 38.54 N: Long. 55.52 W.—did assist in taking a whale which was towed along side and regularly tried.

Therefore
The said T. D. Winship is entitled to all the privileges of a Nantucket man and we do recommend him to such good citizens, as worthy of dancing with any of their wives and daughters—and that he is entitled to all the privileges granted anyone under similar circumstances.

James H. Clark
U. S. Navy
Raymond H. Perry
U. S. Navy."

According to Alexander Starbuck's History of Nantucket, "The *Fame*" sailed from Nantucket June 13, 1828 and returned May 9, 1831, John Ramsdell, Master. It would seem entirely justifiable therefore to say that it was on this voyage that T. D. Winship got his whale.

The authenticity of this certificate is vouched for by Raymond B. Case of Norwich, Conn., who recently forwarded to the Whaling Museum of the Nantucket Historical Association a photostatic copy of the certificate and of a portrait sketch of T. D. Winship who was Mr. Case's great grandfather. Mr. Case states he found the certificate in his great grandfather's sea chest and that he evidently valued it as long as he lived.

T. D. Winship, according to his great grandson, was a privateer in the War of 1812, when in his teens, and fought in the battle of Fayal in the General Armstrong. Later on he shipped on the reported Whaling Voyage from Nantucket and still later commanded the Ship *Wellington* and the Brig *Carrier* from which vessel he was "lost at sea" in 1849.

The certificate and the picture of T. D. Winship are being framed and hung in the Library of the Nantucket Whaling Museum. Classified as the first and only known exhibit of its kind it is proof that at least one man took seriously a reported custom of the time but which today has been looked upon only as one of the many quaint and interesting traditions of Nantucket.

**Mrs. Johnson Leaves Bequests
To Island Institutions**

Through the generosity of the late Pauline Mackay Johnson, several Nantucket institutions have been given bequests, through the Northern Trust Company of Chicago, Illinois. Prior to her death on November 12, 1958, Mrs. Johnson had established a trust, with an agreement that certain sums would be paid out of the fund upon her death.

The Nantucket Civic League has received the sum of \$1,000.00; the Nantucket Cottage Hospital \$2,000.00; the Nantucket Historical Association, has received \$3,000.00; and the Nantucket Atheneum \$2,000.00.

World Wide Research Workers

Use Whaling Museum

Visitors engaged in research work from all parts of the world are growing in number from year to year at the Whaling Museum of the Nantucket Historical Association. Michael G. Hitching of the Alexander Turnbull Library of Wellington, New Zealand, a visitor last summer is a typical example. A librarian visiting the United States on a Fellowship he was doing research for his library on the history of American whaling operations in the South Pacific especially with respect to those which had touched New Zealand waters and ports. He had already perused over 50 log books but finding a wealth of material in the Whaling Museum prolonged his stay and even joined the association to show his appreciation.

Shortly thereafter he was followed by another New Zealander. Although the second visitor's research was in another field it proved necessary for him to read over the same logs, a laborious task because the handwriting in many a log book is far from easy to read.

This focused the attention of the Whaling Museum's Librarian, Mrs. Ellen Chace, on the desirability of indexing the log books and journals for data other than the run of the day reports on position, normal weather and routine event of life, a practice heretofore never followed. The Whaling Museum Committee of the Nantucket Historical Association quickly recognized the importance of this idea and authorized Mrs. Chace to proceed with the work. Little did they realize the herculean task she was undertaking in just adding it to her regular routine. This becomes only too apparent, when one stops to think that in the summer of 1958 just short of 18,000 people paid admissions to see the museum in the four and one half months it was open and that practically all of them visited the library and required some attention. Further that children under 12 years of age are not included in this figure but many of them visit the children's corner in the library and require special attention.

Nevertheless, at the end of the season Mrs. Chace reported having read and indexed 23 log books covering 31 voyages which covered periods of time varying from one year to six years for a voyage, with one log book recording four voyages. Mrs. Chace's report even though written in her own quiet self-effacing manner best describes this work, when she states: "Reading through the logs is very pleasant for the reason that one never knows what is to be found between the covers. Of course one is naturally working for the informative data such as name of ship, tonnage, master, managing owner, ports, and dates of departure and return, and the result of the voyage."

Mrs. Chace goes on to say: "For the benefit of researchers a note is made of ships spoken or referred to and dates, land touched or referred to and dates and other interesting items. For one looking for excitement there are deaths, desertions, descriptions of punishment for various misdemeanors, whales killed, cut up, and tried, and, finally, the stowing down of the oil." After completing 28 logs she made the laconic remark: "Reading the logs was more entertaining than reading some of our modern novels, although not as easy on the eyes."

The magnitude of the project does not seem to phase Librarian Chace for she plans to make even greater progress next year in advancing the project to completion. A few figures prove the magnitude and the importance of the project: There are 158 whaling logs books and journals in the Whaling Museum collection. Among them, 14 contain two voyages; six contain three voyages, and three contain four, five, and six voyages respectively. Besides these there are three logs of merchant vessels; one doctor's journal of medicine and treatments used; one journal of deep sea soundings; one engineer's log of a steamer, and one private journal of a U. S. Navy store ship.

Completion of the project which will include cross referencing the index will provide an accurate and ready reference for almost any type of question which may be asked for which the answer may be found in the Nantucket Historical Association's Whaling Museum log books and journals. Thus the value of the library and its whaling records to the public will be greatly enhanced and undoubtedly more generally used.

300th Anniversary Number Of "Historic Nantucket"

The January issue of "Historic Nantucket," the quarterly magazine published by the Nantucket Historical Association, has just been mailed to all members of the Association. It is the "300th Anniversary Number" and, as such, the opening gun in the celebration of Nantucket's 300th birthday which falls on July 2, 1959, and for which a schedule of over 70 events beginning January 15 and ending September 15 is planned.

Dr. Will Gardner, in the lead article, suggests the re-reading of the few documents, through which the sale of the Island by Thomas Mayhew to Tristram Coffin and his associates, was completed, starts the imagination and pictures begin to appear. He described "Four Mind-Pictures" covering the events of 1659. The first arises from the deed, copy of which is reproduced, which is unusual because of the price: "30 English pounds and 2 beaver Hats, one for myself and one for my wife." Why the beaver hats is the question the first mind-picture answers.

The second picture attempts to answer several questions, namely, why did the Merrimac Valley dwellers choose Nantucket? When and how did the first suggestion of the bargain come? A picturesque meeting between Mayhew and his Cousin Macy in the latter's new house in Amesbury, Mass., about 1654 provides plausible answers. A picture of the house appears on the cover.

The third picture is of the first meeting of Tristram Coffin with the group he selected to be "purchasers." The fourth is at the wigwam of Sachem Namahuma on a neck of land on Hummock Pond, when the Indians signed the first deed selling the land to Thomas Mayhew, 12 days before he signed the Nantucket deed with Tristram Coffin and his associates. The four "mind-pictures" are drawn with Dr. Gardner's usual masterful touch. It is a fitting introduction for Nantucket's Anniversary.

"Peter Folger, Able and Godly," is the title of an interesting life story of the man who negotiated with the Indians the original Nantucket land deeds and who served the community in numerous ways. It was written especially for the association's 300th Anniversary issue by Miss Babette M. Levy, M. A., PhD. and presently

an Associate Professor at Hunter College, New York.

"It Pays to Advertise," was just as true 100 years ago as today. Proof thereof is found in an article by Mrs. Grace E. Hutton, a descendant of Nantucket whaling skippers and a year-round Island resident. Advertisements published prior to 1843 in the "Inquirer" are quoted with amusing and witty comments.

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Looking Back At The Main Street Fêtes

The pictures below will give the younger members of the community some idea of what the Main Street Fêtes of past years were like. The first scene was taken in 1935, and shows a group in costume in front of the Ashley home on Main Street. Shown in the first picture are, left to right, Frank Thurston, Miss Helen Cash, Miss Margaret Sylvia, Maurice Norcross and Mrs. Grace Larkin.

Another photograph shows a group in front of the home of Mrs. Charles Satler on Main Street during the 1935 Street Fête.

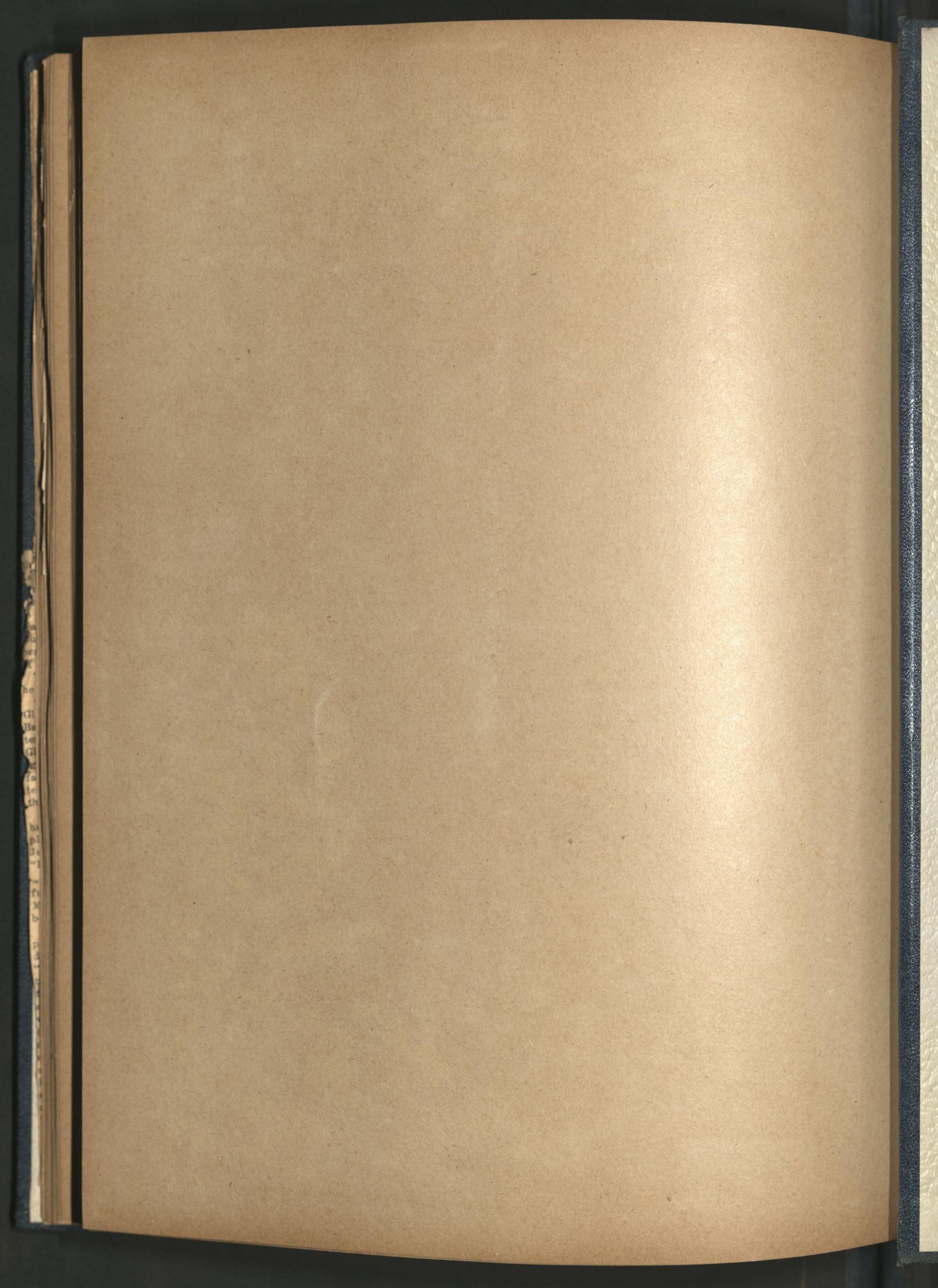
An earlier fete held in 1925, saw many of the island's citizens in costume. The third photograph shows, left to right, Samuel Merrin, a novelist, Tony Sarg, famed creator of marionettes and of the large balloons used in the R. H. Macy Thanksgiving Day parades, Captain Walter Chase, playwright Austin Strong, Breckinridge Long, Captain B. Whitford Joy, and John Martin, a writer of children's stories. Thomas Hallowell is kneeling in front of the group. The pirate with the black patch is not

identified. Captain Chase was in command of the Coskata life saving station in 1892 when the remarkable rescue was made of the crew of the "H. P. Kirkham." Captain Joy was Nantucket's last "square rigger" captain.

The two pictures at the bottom were taken on Old North Wharf and Easy Street the year the fete was held there, rather than on Main Street. The Nantucket Neighbors sponsored the waterfront fêtes, which were held for several years.







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